



SOCCER ACTION

JUGOSLOVENSKA
SCENA:15

VIVA ITALIA:14

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NSL's 2nd division plan is formula for trouble

The NSL's proposal for a second division in 1986 would plunge the clubs even further towards financial ruin.

The proposal, to be voted on by all clubs in September, is:

- For 1985: A northern region including the two Brisbane clubs;
- A southern region including Canberra Arrows and one other club, as yet unchosen, currently playing in the north;
- For 1986: the top six from each region to form a 12-club NSL first division;
- The remainder to be joined by eight other clubs from various State Leagues, and then split into two regional Second Divisions of 10 teams each.

Let's see what this would mean according to NSL standings before last weekend's round.

The First Division, on those standings, would comprise: Sydney Hakoah, APIA, Sydney Olympic, Marconi, Melita Eagles, Penrith, Heidelberg-Alexander, SM-Hellas, Melbourne Croatia, B. U. Juventus, Brisbane Lions and Green Gully.

OK, that's reasonable.

The problem rests with the second division.

The teams left after the top six have been removed from each Conference are:

St George Budapest, Blacktown, Sydney Croatia, Canberra Arrows, Newcastle-Rosebud, Wollongong, Brisbane City, Rockdale-Ilinden, Manly-Warringah, Sutherland Shire, Auburn-Uruguay, Fawkner, Polonia, Box Hill and Western Suburbs. This selection presumes, of course, that additional clubs from South Australia, or Queensland would not be invited.

For the purpose of this exercise, let's replace them with the current State League leaders, Morwell Falcons (Victoria) and Inter-Monaro (NSW).

And to bring the number of clubs to the desired 20, let's then add eight more, purely according to standings on their ladders before last weekend. These clubs would be: Rockdale Ilinden, Manly-Warringah, Sutherland Shire, Auburn-Uruguay, Fawkner, Polonia, Box Hill and Western Suburbs. This selection presumes, of course, that additional clubs from South Australia, or Queensland would not be invited.

Now we have to divide these 20 into geographical regions where interstate travelling would be minimised or, preferably, removed altogether.

Here goes:
SECOND DIVISION 'NORTH': St George Budapest, Blacktown, Newcastle-Rosebud, Wollongong, Brisbane City, Rockdale-Ilinden, Manly-Warringah, Sutherland Shire, Auburn-Uruguay, Inter-Monaro.

SECOND DIVISION 'SOUTH': Preston-Makedonia, Footscray J.U.S.T., West Adelaide Hellas, Adelaide City Juventus, Morwell Falcons, Fawkner, Polonia, Box Hill, Western Suburbs, Canberra Arrows.

It is fair to assume that the second division would be regarded of secondary importance and thus crowds would be low.

At the same time, the Sydney teams would have to travel to Brisbane and Canberra; Brisbane would have to travel to Canberra, Wollongong and Newcastle; Melbourne teams would have to travel to Adelaide and vice-versa, and, in our example, to Canberra as well — all for minimal return at the gate.



Laurie Schwab

The whole plan could collapse, of course, if the NSW and Victorian State Federation blocked it at ASF level to prevent even more clubs leaving the State Leagues. Or would there be another toe-to-toe confrontation; another threatened breakdown?

And would eight State League clubs really want to play in an NSL second division in which their affiliation fees would skyrocket without much hope for a return at the gate?

While these are all long-term considerations, as the Second Division wouldn't start until 1986, the planned format for 1985 has faults of its own.

Obviously, the NSL hopes that Inter Monaro, of Queanbeyan, wins the NSW State League, for both Canberra and Inter Monaro then could be shuffled off to the southern region, allowing both Brisbane clubs to join the northern region.

If, however, Rockdale Ilinden wins the NSW State League, then which club would be pushed down south? Wollongong? Newcastle-Rosebud? Rockdale?

Geographically, that would make as much sense as the Brisbane clubs playing in the south.

Now let's speculate — wildly, to be sure — about the way the 1985 competition will finish.

Say, for example, if the top six of each conference were to look like this:

AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE: Sydney Hakoah, Penrith, St George Budapest, Blacktown, Newcastle-Rosebud, Canberra Arrows.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE: Green Gully, Brisbane Lions, Footscray J.U.S.T., Morwell Falcons, West Adelaide Hellas, Adelaide City Juventus.

Those 12, then, would form the National League in 1986 — and what a financial bonanza that would be!

And what happens to promotion and relegation at the end of that year, the figure would be raised to 10, or even 12, if the present promotion and relegation system carries over to the end of next year.

That's hardly feasible, so relegation obviously would not apply at the end of 1985, although it does apply this year, which is hardly fair. The relegation-threatened clubs have had enough to contend with. Just consider the fact that Sunshine-George Cross, now the No. 1 candidate for relegation from the National Conference, has had to go to Canberra and Newcastle, both struggling but neither able to be relegated!

The league has made more mistakes since its formation than possibly could be remembered even by the most astute student of folly. Let's not have more mistakes which have to be rectified again the following year.

The well-being of all the NSL clubs must be ensured and if the main criterion for change is a geographical one, then relocate the Brisbane clubs in the north, bring four new clubs into the south, and be done with it! Otherwise go back to state-based leagues. I believe that's inevitable in the long run, anyway.

DAY OF SHAME



• Fans invade the Olympic Sports Field in Adelaide and surround referee Tony Mott during Adelaide City Juventus's 3-2 victory over West Adelaide Hellas last Sunday. The players pictured are Graham Honeyman of WA-Hellas and Bugsy Nyskohus of AC-Juventus (No. 3). See page five for a full report on Adelaide's day of shame. Picture by FRANK HOBBS.

FRANCE 2 BRAZIL 0

Olympic soccer
draws 1.42 mil.

From LAWRIE MIFLIN

PASADENA, Calif. — The stirring strains of "The Marseillaise" rang out over a Rose Bowl packed with 101,799 people last Saturday night, as France won the Olympic gold medal in soccer. The French defeated Brazil 2-0.

The crowd, the largest to see a soccer game in the United States or Canada, brought the total attendance at soccer in these Olympics to 1,421,627 for 32 games — an average of 44,426 a game.

Saturday night's spectators, as noisy as they were numerous, saw a full moon rise over the picturesque stadium during the game, and fireworks explode over it afterward. Oddly, while the fireworks blasted, the crowd took up a chant "USA, USA".

But the American team had been eliminated in the preliminary round. Brazil, with five straight wins before Saturday night, and France, with three wins and two draws, had proved themselves the class of the competition, and because both are known as skillful, offensive teams fond of a wide open style, a lively final match was anticipated.

Continued page 14

Yugoslavia

• Striker Stjepan Deyeric grabbed a last-gasp winner as Yugoslavia hit back to beat Italy 2-1 and win the bronze medal in the Olympic soccer tournament.

Deyeric struck nine minutes from time to push a pass from Mehmed Buzdarevic past goalkeeper Franco Tancredi and secure Yugoslavia's first soccer medal for 24 years.

Yugoslavia, gold medalist at the 1960 Rome Games, had three players absent through suspension including Borislav Cvetkovic, the tournament's leading scorer before this game.

• **QUARTER FINALS:** Brazil 1 Canada 1 — Brazil won 4-2 on penalties; Yugoslavia 5 West Germany 2; Italy 1 Chile 0; France 2 Egypt 0.

• **SEMI-FINALS:** Brazil 2 Italy 1; France 4 Yugoslavia 2 after extra time.

PUBLICITY FOR ALL

"Soccer Action" invites clubs to send in comprehensive details of their matches.

Our details sections (on the NSL, Victorian and NSW State Leagues) are widely read and we invite your club to fill in the coupon below and send it to us at Newspress, 603 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, 3001. But take note: THESE COUPONS MUST REACH US BEFORE 1 pm on MONDAYS, OTHERWISE THEY CANNOT BE PUBLISHED.

It is also imperative that you send us match details covering both clubs, not just your own club. The coupon below outlines the information we require: Names of teams, score, scorers and times of goals, team line-ups with ratings out of 10, substitutions and times of substitutions, and send offs and times of send offs if they occur. Remember, you MUST send us details covering both teams.

SCORELINE

(With names of teams, score, scorers and times of goals in brackets after each team's name):

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(With both line-ups, ratings out of 10, substitutions and times, and send offs if required):

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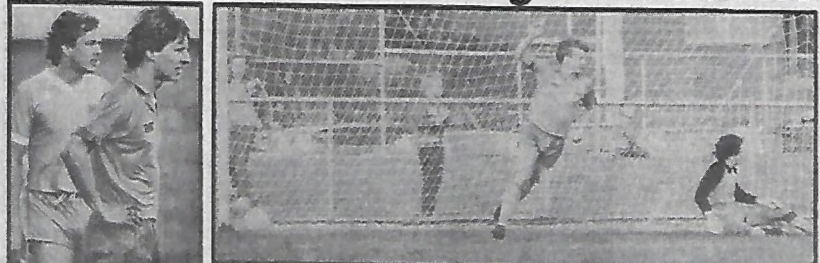
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Meet Steve Smith the goal machine



• Steve Smith of Victorian State League club Box Hill, scores his 19th goal of the season (above), but the Hillmen lost the match 2-3 to Frankston Pines. Smith, pictured at left with his marker, John Cullen (left), is the top scorer in the State League and also has a seven-vote lead in the "Soccer Action" - Schipano Home Furnishers \$1000.

KAT'S CORNER

with PETER KATHOLOS



Soccer's secondary to synchronised swimming

Hands up all those who are rapt in the coverage of Olympic soccer on television.

Come on, there must be someone. I'm sure there must have been at least one comment about the soccer...
No, I didn't hear it either...

Incredible, isn't it? They've shown every conceivable sport on the TV coverage, including volleyball and baseball and horse-riding and hammer throwing.

Have you seen the way people flock to those sports here in Australia? You haven't?

You probably have seen crowds at the soccer though, haven't you?

And you are aware that Italian, Yugoslav and German people constitute quite a

large percentage of Australia's population.

Yet the Channel 10 Network didn't bother to show us the soccer, even though Italy, Yugoslavia and West Germany reached the quarter-finals (I'm writing this before the semi-finals).

No doubt we'll see a glimpse of the final, but that isn't enough by any means. It appears anti-soccer bias is alive and well, and indeed, thriving, among the media moguls.

Are they still worried that coverage of soccer will threaten the well-being of their beloved Aussie Rules and Rugby League?

I heard that one TV commentator referred to soccer as "one of the minority sports." Does he know that crowds at the soccer have been bigger than for any other individual sport; that the soccer has been beamed live to countries throughout Europe and South America; that Europeans and South Americans living here

in Australia have been dying to see some of the games?

And why are we shown volleyball, baseball, hammer-throwing, synchronised swimming, dressage, archery, and Greco-Roman wrestling? Are these not minority sports?

Croatia: hell of a team!

Melbourne Croatia always was a giant of Victorian soccer and now, after a settling-in period, they're staking a claim for the national championship.

Apart from Sydney Hakoah, Croatia is the only team to have beaten my club, Sydney Olympic, twice this year. Croatia is playing attractive soccer, featuring a high level of skill, fast breaks,

good passing, and lots of cheekiness, which all help to bring back the fans.

And their home ground, Olympic Park, is of course, the best soccer ground in Australia, which doesn't do their game any harm at all.

Josip Biskic,ozo Antolovic and Tommy Cumming, as well as up-and-coming striker Robert Markovac are the Croatia players who have impressed me the most.

David Brogan also is a talented player. Tony Curcio is extremely fast at the back and Peter Lewis is as strong as ever.

Yakka Banovic, the \$130,000 man, has been on the bench since being recruited from Derby County and the squad is so strong that Jim Campbell hasn't been able to win back a permanent place yet.

Talk about depth!

Can Hakoah hang on?

APIA has been playing consistently well all year, and if they beat Sydney Hakoah on Sunday, they could turn the tide in the Australian Conference.

If Hakoah wins, then surely that club will run away with the championship, but a victory to second-placed APIA will put even Olympic back into the race for the title.

And Hakoah's form hasn't been all that great recently. Before last weekend, they had won only one game in four weeks.

This is the time of year that players become a little bit stale, and lose a little bit of interest. Perhaps it's happening to Sydney Hakoah. I certainly hope so, for it would give Olympic another chance.

TACTICAL REVOLUTION IN EUROPEAN FINALS



Midfielders Theo Selemidis (left) of Heidelberg-Alexander and Joe Watson of Sydney City Hakoah.



Michel Platini of France — from midfield, he was top scorer of the Euro finals.

MAKEDONIA

Potter
McMillan
Dunn Dobson
Petrovski Opasinis
Heys Odzakov Campbell
Cole Lucchesi

SYDNEY OLYMPIC

Meier
Dakos
Rogers Coady
Raskopoulos Phillips
Patikas Katholos Jennings
Soper Theodorakopoulos

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS

Laumets
Yzendoorn
Blair Russell
Halford Kalifatidis
Davidson Crino Murphy
Brown Egan

SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH

Pezzano
Robertson
O'Connor Cant
Rodrigues Barnes
Watson Kay Murray
Kosmina Lee

MARCONI

James
Henderson
Calderan Mariani
Carter Rizzotto
Jankovics Mason Sharne
Lowe Brown

HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER

Oliver
Yankos
MacLeod Angele
McKie Valentine
Selemidis Petersen Patterson
Winn Stevenson

MELBOURNE CROATIA

Banovic
Curcio
Parton Lewis
Antolovic Deankovic
Biskic Cumming Gojevic
Markovac Brogan

APIA

Parkes
Bertogna
Pullen Brown
Gray Butler
Tredinnick Morsello
DeCeglie

3-5-2 replaces 4-4-2

By LAURIE SCHWAB

A tactical revolution occurred during the European Championships in France. No fewer than six of the eight finalists employed a five-man midfield at one time or another.

This replaced the four-man midfield which had been the accepted norm in the past, and which still is prevalent in Australian soccer.

The two European finalists that did stick to a four-man midfield — West Germany and Belgium — looked the least impressive, despite the talent at their disposal.

The teams that used the five-man midfield did not augment the usual four with a defender given the freedom to move up. Instead, they went out to play from the kick-off with five recognised midfield players.

They reckoned that this net, strung across

the middle of the park, would improve their defensive efficiency by stopping opposing attacks further away from the danger zone.

France's middle-five were: Fernandez, Tigana, Giresse, Platini and Genghini. The Yugoslav midfield: Gudelj, Sestic, D. Stojkovic, Vujovic, Bazdarevic.

Spain's midfield: Senor, Victor, J. Alberto, Gallego, Gordillo.

Denmark's: Arnesen, Sivebaek, Bertelsen, Berggren, Lorbj.

Let's look (left) at some possibilities when the five-man midfield is used in the NSL:



Preston Makedonia — a team that has had problems coming up with the right midfield combination. From left, standing: Gordon Flavell, George McMillan, Ian Dobson, Steve Potter, Robbie Dunn, Gary Cole, Zarko Odzakov. Front: Zoran Ilioski, Claude Lucchesi, George Campbell, Graham Heys, Ljube Petrovski, Con Opasinis.

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LES MURRAY

Australian soccer players don't have enough to aim for, said Frank Arok when asked to name the one big hurdle facing our soccer's development.

He elaborated, pointing out that because there's bigger money and glamor in Aussie Rules, Rugby League, tennis and cricket, far too small a proportion of budding Australian sportsmen are taken by soccer.

Given the modest financial rewards Australian clubs can, with any degree of sanity, offer their players, this is a crippling problem and one even our administrators are helpless at trying to overcome.

Arok is right. There is no way Australian soccer can hope to compete with the rewards of such opposition, offered to those who wish to carry professional sport beyond their teens.

Ironically, national coach Arok might not necessarily benefit from the one hope soccer has of shepherding young Aussie sportsmen toward the world game.

That, of course, is the prospect and the likely rewards of playing overseas.

Our Rugby League and Aussie Rules clubs have no hope of matching the financial rewards and the lifestyle offered by full time professional soccer in Europe.

If you have seen the way professional footballers live in Europe, never mind their bank balances, you'd know what I mean.

Making a social call on Adrian Alston when he was with modest Luton Town in England in the mid-70s, I was staggered by the near-pop star status Noddy and his colleagues were enjoying.

And that was in unruffled, conservative England, another world away from the all-consuming hysteria that surrounds soccer players in, say, Italy or Spain.

And then there is the money.

Rene Colusso, on his recent visit

Johnston, Krncevic open up the world

home to Sydney, spoke of his transfer to third division Salernitana. His likely earnings for the forthcoming Italian season should be around \$160,000, about \$40,000 up on his earnings the previous season.

In addition, he gets family accommodation in a rent-free house, part and parcel of a standard deal for any Italian professional.

Not bad, and it's hardly surprising that Colusso is not yet hankering for a return to the sunshine and green pastures of Australia.

My own view is in dead opposition to those who reckon that the talent drain of Australia is something we ought to try to curb by artificial means.

In fact I believe it's good for us and the more go, as far as I'm concerned, the merrier.

It is simple logic that if more Craig Johnston and Rene Colussos made it overseas, more teenage soccer

players from Australia would want to do the same.

And that means that more of those half a million juniors of ours would stay in soccer and not turn to League, Rules, surfing or snooker.

Indeed, you can argue that the talent drain can be of benefit to your national team, as it could well be in our case should our exported players be available for Frank Arok's preparations.

Soccer players tend to improve when they play in a league of a standard higher than their own. The supremely talented and cohesive Danish national team of the past couple of years for instance was composed almost entirely of expatriate Danes and I'm sure their coach, Sepp Piontek, had no complaints.

And no one could say Zico, Falcao,

Cerezo, Socrates, and therefore the Brazilian national team, won't benefit from whatever rubs off on those players during their stay in competitive Italy.

Australian club coaches, naturally, always will be displeased at the prospect of losing their players, lured away by the overseas dollar.

But then, if push overseas clubs do want these players, there must be something the local coaches are doing right.

Perhaps they can console themselves with that.

But, where the long-term benefits to Australia are concerned, there should be no opposition to our players wanting to set sail for the money and glamor of lands where full-time professionalism is possible.

It is the solitary thing of substance our players have to aim at. We should let them aim at it.

But once they do go, we should ensure they remain available for national team duty.

And when we should use them, as we now should try to use Colusso, David Mitchell and Eddie Krncevic.

And, yes, Craig Johnston whose so-called unavailability for the Australian team is but a myth.

Just ask him!

• Les Murray hosts Network 0-28's "Match of the Day" on Sundays, "On the Ball" on Mondays and Tuesdays, "World Soccer" on Saturdays and Fridays and "International Sports Magazine" on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Young Vics do battle in Tassie

Ernie Tapai of Melbourne, Victor Cristaldo of Keilor Austria, Kris Ketsakidis of Northcote and Sam Greco of Brunswick Juventus are among the young stars selected by coach Bill Curran in the Victorian Combined Schools side.

The Vics leave for the national titles in Tasmania on Sunday, September 2.

They'll be up against sides representing Tasmania, Western Australia, NSW, the ACT and Queensland in a week long, round-robin tournament to decide the champion combined schools side of Australia.

Former Ardeer coach John Mason is team manager.

The Vic side is:
GOALKEEPERS: Slobodan Bozinovski (from Altona North Tech); Fotios Alexopoulos (St Albans High).

DEFENDERS: Tom Divic (Sandringham Tech); Sam Greco (Coburg High); Kris



Ernie Tapai

Ketsakidis (Northcote High); Tom Zilic (Newlands High); Bill Peculovski (Lalor High).
MIDFIELDERS: Ernie Tapai (Caulfield High); Theo Kasmeris (Richmond High); Domenic Ruccio (Brunswick Tech); Victor Cristaldo (Flemington High).

FORWARDS: John Condlis (Ardeer High); Stan Tattos (Richmond High); Nick Gourlias (Richmond High); Nasser Eminofski (Brunswick High); Con Lagas (Kealba High).

IN BRIEF Falcons may snub NSL

You don't hear about Branko Buljevic anymore. And that's a shame. Branko retired earlier this year and we hear that he's very downhearted about the Australian soccer scene. *Pity. He's still fit. Needless to say, he's still got his great ball skills.*

Speaking about names no longer in the news, whatever happened to Jim Adam?

Tim White says that he'll keep writing about the media for as long as the media keeps writing about coaches. He was talking in response to a newspaper article which suggested that he'd be better off sticking to coaching.

We hear that some prominent Morwell Falcons committeemen aren't interested in the club going into the 1985 NSL should it win the Victorian State League championship this year. We understand that the Falcons' first priority is to gain a full liquor licence and all the club's energies are being directed toward that end. If that's true, watch for quite a few players leaving the Latrobe Valley club next season. *Fawcner, Polonia and Box Hill will be praying that our sources are reliable.*

We hear that the VSF is seriously considering taking action against players, coaches or club officials who have a go at the Federation or at referees in the print or electronic media. The VFL already suppresses such outbursts. What ever happened to freedom of speech? Surely players and club coaches are responsible only to their clubs. Perhaps the VSF believes that it should be above criticism. We hope not.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

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RATCLIFFE RETURNS

By LAURIE SCHWAB

St. George Budapest regains David Ratcliffe as it continues its battle against relegation; Footscray J.U.S.T. and Canberra play each other twice in as many days; Makedonia, strengthened by Sean Lane from Derby County, presses on towards a place in the finals; George Cross aims to complete a double against SM-Hellas, and APIA gets the chance to open up the title race when it meets Sydney Hakoah in an engrossing round of matches at the weekend.

St. George is in the relegation berth in the Australian Conference, but with Ratcliffe back after suspension, and Des Martin also back in the team after a long lay-off, the Saints should at least draw with in-form Newcastle-Rosebud, even though they have managed only three losses and two draws from their past five games.

Saints had hoped to regain striker Paul Wilkinson but the ASF has ruled that all clearances for this season terminated at the end of June. "We thought he would be eligible because he is our registered player and has permanent residency status," said St. George coach Frank Arok. "But we did clear him to play amateur football in England. That was our downfall."

J.U.S.T. will be at full strength for its postponed match against Canberra in Canberra on Saturday, and again at Schintler Reserve on Sunday, but Canberra may still have problems. Although Marko Perovic should be back after injury, Frank Farina and Ian Gibson still may be hampered by injuries.

J.U.S.T. has a lot more experience than Canberra, which may have to rely heavily on goalkeeper Tony Franken, Brian O'Donnell and Tony Caban are vying for one of J.U.S.T.'s midfield positions. Jamie Pate is back in contention after recovering from injury, and even Graham Tutill, who has been out for most of the season, is battling back now.

Two wins from these two games, could put J.U.S.T. into fourth position.

Makedonia, facing Brisbane Lions in Brisbane, regains George Campbell after suspension, but after the team's 5-2 victory against George Cross, coach Frank McAleer may resist making changes. The big win followed the introduction of goalkeeper Richard Wilson, midfielder Gordon Flavell and striker Lane to the side, at the expense of Steve Potter, Ljube Petrovski and Campbell.

George Cross's finest victory of the season was against SM-Hellas, 1-0, with Ossie Latif scoring the goal, and Tom Costello saving a penalty. Now George Cross hopes for another victory, at its home-ground fortress where, according to Bobby Toal, the "Cross could beat even Sydney Hakoah."

If APIA beats Sydney Hakoah in Sydney, an APIA

Team of the week

In brackets: number of appearances in team of the week.

OLIVER (1) (Heidelberg)	YANKOS (3) (Heidelberg)	McDOWELL (4) (J.U.S.T.)	McMILLAN (2) (Makedonia)
BOZANIC (1) (APIA)	JANKOVICS (4) (Marconi)	PIMBLETT (3) (Brisbane City)	SENKALSKI (1) (Newcastle-Rosebud)
FARRUGIA (2) (Melita Eagles)	JURIN (1) (Sydney Croatia)	LUIC (2) (J.U.S.T.)	

Youth leagues

VICTORIAN YOUTH LEAGUE: Green Gully 1 Footscray 1, Melb. Croatia 2 Heidelberg 0, Preston 0, Sun George Cross 1, 5th Melbourne 3 B.U. Juventus 0, Frankston Pines 8 Knox City 1, Nuna City 2 Morwell Falcons 4.

STANDINGS

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
5th Melbourne	14	1	2	48	14	29
Footscray	12	2	3	37	15	28
Melb. Croatia	8	3	2	27	15	21
B.U. Juventus	9	2	7	29	30	20
Heidelberg	8	1	5	39	14	19
Nuna City	7	3	7	30	37	17
Green Gully	3	7	25	21	15	11
Sun George Cross	5	6	23	21	15	11
Preston	5	6	18	20	15	11
Morwell Falcons	3	11	23	33	10	9
Frankston Pines	3	10	27	38	9	9
Knox City	0	2	15	10	78	2

This Sunday's games:
Knox City v Preston
Makedonia: Brunswick Juventus v Nunawading City; Footscray J.U.S.T. v Frankston Pines; Heidelberg v Green Gully; Sunshine-George Cross v South Melbourne Hellas.

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE: Marconi 2 AIS 1, Sydney City 1 Newcastle 1, AIS 2 Leichhardt 1, Melita Eagles 4, Newcastle 1, Penrith 3 Olympic 0, Canberra 2 Sydney City 1, St. George 2, Blacktown 0, Croatia 2, Wollongong 0, Points: AIS 26, Melita Eagles 23, Newcastle 23, Canberra 22, Leichhardt 22, St. George 21, Marconi 17, Sydney City 16, Blacktown 16, Olympic 13, Penrith 12, Croatia 12, Wollongong 9.

VSF Travel top scorers

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12 — Brown (SMH)
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7 — Daunt (BL), Gojevic (M. Cro), Egan (SMH)
6 — Sweeney, Ward (B. Juve), Brogan (M. Cro).



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	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
H'BERG-ALEXANDER	11	5	4	31	18	27
MELB. CROATIA	10	6	4	32	20	28
SM-HELLAS	11	3	6	33	18	25
BRISB. CITY	8	4	8	16	21	20
B.U. JUVENTUS	8	4	8	23	33	20
Makedonia	7	4	9	35	31	18
Footscray JUST	7	4	8	22	31	18
Brisb. Lions	7	4	9	30	31	18
Green Gully	7	4	9	27	28	18
Ad. City Juventus	7	4	9	23	24	18
West Adelaide Hellas	6	4	10	33	35	16
S. Geo. Cross	3	6	11	16	42	12

AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
SYD. C. HAKOAH	13	6	1	49	13	32
APIA-L'CHARDT	10	6	4	35	23	26
SYD. OLYMPIC	9	7	4	38	22	25
MARCONI	9	5	6	43	27	23
MELITA EAGLES	7	7	6	20	22	21
Blacktown	7	5	8	28	34	19
Syd. Croatia	6	7	7	24	31	19
Penrith	6	7	7	22	30	19
St. Geo. Budapest	5	7	8	27	30	17
Newcastle-Rosebud	7	2	11	24	43	18
Canberra	7	1	11	30	29	15
Wollongong	3	4	13	14	44	10

Still Bradley

Footscray JUST utility Gary McDowell has made the biggest jump up in the voting for "Soccer Action's" \$1500 best player award which is sponsored by Boral Bricks.

McDowell, filling the role of centreback on the weekend, got five votes in JUST's 3-2 win over Green Gully to move into sixth position overall in the voting.

But John Bradley is still well in the lead at the top of the list stretching the gap between him and second placed Paul Wade of Green Gully to seven votes after picking up a

vote in APIA's 3-3 draw with Marconi.

Wade failed to earn any votes in Gully's defeat.

The leaders:
70 Bradley (APIA)
63 Wade (GG)
53 Franken (Can)
49 McIntosh (P)
45 Wishart (BC),
43 McDowell (FJ), Kosmina (SCH)
42 Melita (AC), Williams (GG), Yankos (H)
41 Bertogina (APIA)
40 Biskic (MC), Tredinnick (APIA)
38 Jackson (BL)
37 Hoare (B), Patikas (SO)
36 Henderson (M), McMILLAN (PM), Murphy (SMH)
35 Egan (SMH)

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

ADELAIDE CITY JUVENTUS 3 (Melita 2, Gatenby)
WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS 2 (Honeyman 2) at Olympic Sports Field. Crowd: about 4,000. Ratings by Robert Luseth:

ADELAIDE CITY JUVENTUS: McNally 7 — Tobin 7, Nyskohus 8, Flounders 8, Cacerre 7 — Melita 8, Villani 6, Maxwell 7, Gatenby 7 — Mullen 7, Rankin 5. Coach: Edmund Kreft.

WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS: Sproul 7 — Papazoglou 7, McGachey 7, Heirn 7, Mousoulis 7 — Manou 6, Brown 6 (Stamatopoulos), Honeyman 8, Panagis 6 — Konstantopoulos 6 (Papadopoulos), Malavozos 7, Coach: Sam Salabasidis.

Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Honeyman (WA), 5. Flounders (AC), 4. Nyskohus (AC), 3. Melita (AC), 2. McGachey (WA), 1. Sproul (WA).

GREEN GULLY 2 (Carter 45th pen, McGuinness 56th)
FOOTSCRAY JUST 3 (Lujic 26th, Belic 78th, 79th) at Green Gully Reserve. Crowd: 1000 (estimate). Ratings by Peter Desira:

GREEN GULLY: Dwyer 7, Smart 6, Cannell 8, McLelland 8, Hogen 6, Wade 7, Smallman 6, Williams 6, McGuinness 7, Carter 8 (sent off 90th), Lewis 7. Coach: Bobby McLachlan.

FOOTSCRAY JUST: Boland 8, Curovic 6 (O'Donnell 66th), McDowell 9, Hazabent 7, Tansey 8, Caban 6 (Paton 60th), Carroll 8, Belic 8, Karic 6, Lacmanovic 6, Lujic 9. Coach: Cedo Cirkovic.

Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Lujic (FJ), 5. McDowell (FJ), 4. Carter (GG), 3. Belic (FJ), 2. McLelland (GG), 1. Carroll (FJ).

BRISBANE CITY 1 (Fabrizio 2nd) BRISBANE LIONS 0 at Spencer Park. Crowd: 1572. Ratings by Ricky Rosso:

BRISBANE CITY: Wishart 7, Milovanovic 7, Perry 8, Liddell 8, Bromfield 7, O'May 6, Pimblett 7, Swan 7 (Mengotti 57th), Fabrizio 8, Welsh 6, Hamilton 6. Coach: Joe Gilroy.

LIONS: Farrow 7, Jackson 8, Vasquez 7, Hunter 6, Niven 7 (McSkimming, half-time), J. Jones 7, J. Stewart 7, Anderson 7 (Vincent 63rd), R. Stewart 6, McDonagh 7, Daunt 8. Coach: Gordon Arrowsmith.

Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Pimblett (BC), 5. Perry (BC), 4. Jackson (LI), 3. Fabrizio (BC), 2. Liddell (BC), 1. Daunt (LI).

SYDNEY CROATIA 2 (Jurin 17th, Gaffney o.g. 61st)
WOLLONGONG 0 at King Tomislav Park. Crowd: 3000. Ratings by Phillip Micalof.

CROATIA: Watson 7 — Woods 8, Tomasic 7, Rozic 7, Sterry 7 — Vidalic 7, Jurin 8, Savor 7 — Arnold 7, Clinch 7, Borasz 7. Coach: Harry Noon.

WOLLONGONG: Tilsted 6 — Green 7, Viletstra 7, Hristovski 6 (Kerr 69th), Dickson 7, Fleming 7 — Willis 7, Anderson 7 (Vincent 63rd), R. Stewart 6, McDonagh 7, Daunt 8. Coach: Adrian Alston.

Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Jurin, 5. Woods, 4. Vidalic, 3. Arnold (AI Croatia), 2. Green, 1. Gaffney (both Woll).

CANBERRA ARROWS 0 SYDNEY CITY 1 (Kosmina penalty 22nd) at National Sports Centre, Canberra. Crowd: 1085. Ratings by Peter Windsor:

CANBERRA ARROWS: Franken 8, Jones 8, Hogg 8, Redmond 8, Harkins 8, Mihalichis 8, Bryant 8, Sermanni 7, Brockbank 8, Lamond 8 (Cuffitelli 84th), Reis 7 (Gibson 81st). Coach: Doug Collins.

SYDNEY CITY: Pezzano 8, Robertson 7, O'Connor 7 (Gomez 50th), Marigny 7, Rodrigues 7, Kay 7, Watson 8, Falconer 7 (Fletcher 72nd), Lee 8, Kosmina 7, Murray 8. Coach: Eddie Thomson.

Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Lee, 5. Brockbank, 4. Sermanni, 3. Lamond, 2. Watson, 1. Murray.

APIA LEICHHARDT 3 (Catlin 4th, Caban 38th, De Ceglie 77th) MARCONI 3 (Jankovics 31st, 41st, Brown 83rd) at Hanson Park. Crowd: 1200 (estimate). Ratings by Knut Werner:

APIA LEICHHARDT: Catlin 8, Bozanic 8, Bertogina 7, Pullen 7, Brown 6, Butler 6, Bradley 8, Tredinnick 7, De Ceglie 7, Caban 8, Morsello 6. Coach: Fil Bortolice.

MARCONI: James 5, Carter 6, Henderson 7, Calderan 7, Rizzotto (Spanos 30th), McCulloch 8, Mason 8, Jankovics 9, Lowe 6, Brown 7, Ulate 7. Coach: Les Scheinflug.

Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Jankovics (M), 5. Bozanic (APIA), 4. Caban (APIA), 3. McCulloch (M), 2. Mason (M), 1. Bradley.

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34. Jankovics (Mare) Wotherspoon (P)
33. Katholos (SO), McPherson (ME)
32. Liddell (BC)
John Kosmina (Sydney Hakoah) increased his lead over Doug Brown (SM-Hellas) in the Boral Bricks \$1000 top scorer's award.
Leaders:
16. Kosmina (SCH)
12. D. Brown (SMH).

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

MELBOURNE CROATIA 0 HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER 0 at Olympic Park. Crowd about 5000. Ratings by Laurie Schwab:

CROATIA: Blasby 9 — Lewis 7, Curcio 8, Parton 7, Deankovic 8 — Biskic 8, Antolovic 7, Campbell 5, Gojevic 6 (inj. sub. Cumming 8, 40th) — Brogan 8, Markovic 5. Coach: Tony Vrzina.

HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER: O'Leary 9 — McKie 7, Yankos 9, Angele 8, Valentine 7 — Selemidis (inj. sub. Matkovic 5, 35th), Patterson 7, Patterson 8 — Tzintzis 6, Winn 7, Stevenson 8. Coach: Brian Garvey.

Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Yankos (H), 5. O'Leary (H), 4. Blasby (Cr), 3. Biskic (Cr), 2. Brogan (Cr), 1. Stevenson (H).

PRESTON MAKEDONIA 5 (McMillan 9th, Lane 14th, Dunn 65th, Dobson 72nd, Ilioski 89th) SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 2 (McGorian 55th, Faulkner 84th) at Connor Reserve. Crowd: 1500. Ratings by Ken Connor:

PRESTON MAKEDONIA: Wilson 8 — McMillan 9, Dunn 8, Dobson 8, Opasinis 7 — Lucchesi 7, Flavell 8, Odzakovic 7 (Petrovski 80th), Heys 8 (Ilioski 80th) — Cole 7, Lane 7. Coach: Frank McAllister.

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS: Contini 6 — Taylor 6, Scerni 7, Bennett 8, Bain 7 — McLaren 8, Faulkner 7, Jovanovic 7 — Toal 7 (Pit 80th), McGorian 8, Luff 8. Coach: Billy Wilkinson.

Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. McMillan (MA), 5. Dunn (MA), 4. McGorian (GC), 3. Heys (MA), 2. Bennett (GC), 1. Dobson (MA).

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 1 (Egan 39th) BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS 0 at Middle Park. Crowd: about 3,000. Ratings by Craig MacKenzie:

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS: Launerts 5 — Russell 7, Blair 7, Kallitidis 6, Petecoglou 6 — Kanoskou 6, Davidson 6, Crino 6, Murphy 6 — Brown 6, Egan 7. Coach: Len McKendry.

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS: Martin 7 — Gieremia 7, Brown 6, Drincovic 6, Swinscoe (inj. Sweeney 14th) — Sagiam 5 (Minichello 53rd), Dowie 7, Campbell 6, Ward 6 — Cullen 5, Zinni 5. Coach: John Margari.

Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Russell (SMH), 4. Martin (BJ), 4. Egan (SMH), 3. Dowie (BJ), 2. Blair (SMH), 1. GEREMIA (BJ).

AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE

PENRITH CITY 0 SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (Patikas 59th) at Cook Park. Ratings by Alex Vesic:

PENRITH CITY: Gibson 9 — Brogan 7, Daley 6, Macintosh 6, Cross 7 — Fitzharris 7, Ainsworth 6, Wotherspoon 6 (Easthorpe 76th), Hale 6 — Hunter 7, Jackson 7. Coach: Willie Wallace.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier 8 — Rogers 7, Dakos 7, Coady 8, Jennings 7 — Raskopoulos 7, Katholos 7, Patikas 8 — Kalantzis 6 (Petals 84th), Soper 7, Koussas 7. Coach: Manfred Schaefer.

Best six for the Boral Bricks award: 6. Gibson, 5. Patikas, 4. Coady, 3. Soper, 2. Hunter, 1. Raskopoulos.

MELITA EAGLES 1 (Wilson 59th) NEWCASTLE ROSEBUDS 3 (Power 22nd, Todd 41st, Milosevic 90th) at Melita Stadium. Crowd: 864. Ratings by Emanuel Grima:

MELITA EAGLES: Hummel 5 — McAusland 8, McGinn 7, Wilson 8, Tredinnick 6 — Allan 6, Davies 6, (Gregg 75th), Farrugia 9, Laling 6 — McKie 6 (75th Delaney), Duarte 6. Coach: Paul Bianchi.

NEWCASTLE ROSEBUDS: Gosling 9 — Meier 7, Owens 7, Power 8, Thomson 6 — McQuarry 7, Senkalski 9, Brandt 6, Milosevic 8 — Todd 7, A. Owens 7, (Allen 67th). Coach: Willie Gallagher.

Best six for the Boral Bricks award: 6. Senkalski, 5. Farrugia, 4. Gosling, 3. Wilson, 2. Power, 1. McAusland.

ST. GEORGE 0 BLACKTOWN CITY 1 (Larkin 59th) at St. George Stadium. Crowd: 964. Ratings by George Streeter:

ST. GEORGE: Greedy 8 — Pappas 6, M. O'Shea 7, J. O'Shea 7, Petekovski 7 (Danekos 83rd) — Barton 8, Ricoy 7, Stone 7 — Slater 7, Koczka 8, Marton 7. Coach: Frank Arok.

BLACKTOWN CITY: Hoare 8 — Wheatley 8, Dunleavy 8, Linkin 7, Skellern 8 — Salvaggio 7, Dwyer 7, Byrne 7 — Sandy 7, Parker 8, O'Connor 7. Coach: Casey de Bruin.

Best six for the Boral Bricks award: 6. Hoare, 5. Greedy, 4. Wheatley.

Demons leave Saints shaky!



George Streeter

Man of the Match:
BARRY HOARE
(Blacktown)

St George 0 Blacktown 1

Scorer: John Larkin 59th
Venue: St George Stadium
Crowd: 964
Referee: Arthur Owens 8
Cautions: M. O'Shea, Byrne.

Blacktown completed a double over St George Budapest when John Larkin netted in the 59th minute to send St George deep into the relegation zone.

It was a lacklustre performance by both sides, with neither showing much penetration and the goalkeepers proving to be the best players on the day. Barry Hoare earned his man of the match award by saving Blacktown at crucial times.

Robbie Wheatley and Mark Barton, youngsters with some future in this game, showed a lot of class. Wheatley stopped Dez Marton, Saints' ageing striker, while Barton was dominant in midfield for St George.

Phil O'Connor, the man Blacktown invested in so heavily, did not perform anywhere near his best and is still feeling his way back into the game. He showed a few touches, but will take some time before he is back to his best. Cliff Pointer, the hard-tackling Demon, did not waste much time in getting back to his best, showing a lot of zest at the back.

Well, the precious points again went to the Demons against last year's champions. And yet again by the same scoreline. It might have been a different story had David Skeen and David Ratcliffe been in the side. Saints are not getting the breaks which fell their way last year and one wonders just how long it is going to be before the side is regarded as a serious candidate for relegation.

After only nine minutes of the game, Barry Hoare rushed out to foil Peter Pekovski after the St George youngster had been put through by Mark Barton. Then, with Saints one down, Hoare was on hand to remedy an error by Skellern. Robbie Slater looked to have a golden opportunity to score but a diving Barry Hoare saved the day for the Demons.

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LUJIC DAZZLES, SO U.S.T. TRIUMPHS

Green Gully 2 Foots. JUST 3

Scorers: 0-1 Lujic 26th, 1-1 Carter pen 45th, 2-1 McGuinness 56th, 2-2 Belic 78th, 2-3 Belic 79th.
Venue: Green Gully Reserve
Referee: Jim Fokianos 8
Cautions: Paton (FJ), Carter (GC — sent off 90th), Smart (GC).

One of Cedo Cirkovic's favorite sayings is that when Zdravko Lujic plays well, Footscray JUST plays well.

This match was very much a case in point, with Lujic leading JUST from the brink of defeat to a good victory by contributing a goal and setting up the other two for Vlatko Belic.

Bobby McLachlan admitted after the game that his full-back Ken Smart had a nightmare against the JUST wing, but the Green Gully coach saw it vastly differently when it came to summing up the match.

"We had the game won but gave it away by becoming too cocky and complacent."

"(JUST) took the lead against the run of play but we got the equaliser at a vital time and scored a lovely goal at the start of the second half."



Peter Desira

"We were well on top but all of a sudden the marking became slack, we fell down in the middle and people like David Hopkin and Jimmy Williams were more intent on going forward than picking up anyone."

As an afterthought, after that mouthful, McLachlan added: "I can't be too critical because the lads have done so well to bring us up to where we are."

"They (JUST) were rubbish — Paul Lewis turned Igor Hazabent a shot by many times, yet didn't end up scoring."

Hazabent was switched from full back to the centre of the defence and despite McLachlan's appraisal, I thought he did a fair job on Lewis, restricting him to one clear-cut chance in the second half, when the Gully striker sped away and forced Dennis



WA-Hellas striker George Konstandopoulos is carried off injured at Olympic Sports Field. At left in the dark jacket is Hellas coach Sam Salabasidis. Picture: FRANK HOBBS.

FANS GO WILD OVER REFEREE

By ROBERT LUSETICH

AC-Juventus 3 WA-Hellas 2

Venue: Olympic Sportsfield
Crowd: 4000
Scorers: Melta 8th, 73rd, Gatenby 62nd, Honeyman 43rd & 79th.
Cautions: Panagis, Manou, Honeyman, Melta.

This intense and entertaining match was marred by mob violence. About 20 police had to be called to break up rampaging spectators at the match, which was won by Adelaide Juventus 3-2.

Irate fans invaded the pitch midway through the second half and made lunges at referee Tony Martell and his line-men, before police could control the hysteria.

There seemed to be no direct cause for this intrusion but the tension was apparent, as is often the case in local derby matches. From the beginning, some Hellas supporters were angry about several refereeing decisions and it became obvious the problems had not ended with the first ground invasion.

The climax came five minutes from the end, when, with the scores at 3-2, Hellas's Graham Honeyman appeared to have equalised for his team. Martell, however, ruled there had been an infringement on a Juve defender and subsequently disallowed the goal.

This so angered the Hellas fans among the 4,000-strong crowd, that a mob again streamed onto the pitch, many

of them calling for the referee's blood.

It took seven minutes before play could once again start.

Amazingly, there were no arrests or injuries, although several people were removed from the ground.

After the match Martell, was escorted from the ground by police.

The post mortem consensus seemed to be that Martell's refereeing had left much to be desired.

Hellas team manager Frank Karagiannis described it as the "worst" he had seen, and also criticised the behavior of some Adelaide Juventus player who, he said, constantly made finger gestures to certain sections of the crowd.

Adelaide Juventus chairman Charlie Caruso also slammed Martell's exhibition, but thought there were other equally important reasons for the crowd behavior.

"It's a real tragedy. It's about time the standard of refereeing was looked at," Caruso said.

"But Sam Salabasidis (Hellas coach) should never have got up and gone to the linesman in the first half," he said.

Salabasidis, angered at a decision made by the line-

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Canberra will compete in this year's under-15 championships in Perth from September 2 thanks to a \$5,000 sponsorship from a Canberra company, Concrete Structures.

Canberra also will compete in the national under-14 and under-16 championships, both in NSW, but not the under-13 championships in Melbourne.

Man of the Match:
GRAHAM HONEYMAN
(WA-Hellas)

man, ran toward the official during the first period, but was stopped before reaching him.

He thought that started the whole thing," Caruso said, adding that the coach should have been sent off the ground for his behavior.

The great pity was that these ugly incidents were allowed to ruin what was a great game of soccer.

In the typical spirit of a derby, both sides came out fired up and wanting to win, and it was Juventus that scored first.

Midfielder Sergio Melta put the ball into the net in the 8th minute to give his side the lead.

Not to be denied, Hellas levelled just before half-time through a Graham Honeyman penalty.

A 43rd minute corner had been shot toward goal by Hellas defender Brenton Hiern and would have counted but for a handball by Joe Mullen on the goal-line.

Juventus regained the lead in the 62nd minute after a

cross by Mullen was powerfully headed home by Englishman Mark Gatenby.

Juve surged further ahead in the 73rd minute when Melta chipped a delightful goal over the outstretched Spruel.

Eleven minutes from the end, Honeyman put away his second and brought Hellas back into consideration, although in the end time ran out for Honeyman's side.

Women's titles

The Australian Women's Soccer Championships will be played in Canberra from August 28.

And all nine women's soccer States will be represented.

The games will be played at Hawker Oval.

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MENS — A choice of two end of season trip tournaments which are open to any standard of team as the events are designed as both a serious tournament but also an overseas holiday. The first is "THE SOUTH PACIFIC MENS AND WOMENS SOCCER CHALLENGE" set for the same week in October in Fiji. The second is "THE THIRD GARUDA CUP BALI SOCCER TOURNAMENT" set for the first two weeks of November 1985. Both tournament packages include a number of meals and are the perfect way to end a hard season.

WOMENS — The New Caledonia South Pacific Cup now in its 3rd year has been widened to take place in Fiji in 1985 then back to New Caledonia in 1986. The event now called "THE SOUTH PACIFIC WOMENS SOCCER CHALLENGE" takes place in Fiji in October. Club, Association or Invitational teams can enter and in 1985 the event is expected to feature teams from Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, New Caledonia and possibly America. Held during the same week as the mens event it will both be a serious tournament as well as an end of season holiday and as such is open to all standards of teams. A comprehensive package with a number of meals is now available.

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Man of the Match:
GRANT LEE
(Syd. Hakoah)

Penalty 'dodgy' says Thomson

**Canberra 0
SC-Hakoah 1**

Scorer: John Kosmina, 22nd minute (penalty)
Venue: National Sports Centre
Referee: Kay
Referee: T. Seacy 6

When you lose by a hotly-disputed penalty you have good reason to feel dejected — and that was just Canberra's reaction after its loss to NSL front-runner Sydney City Hakoah on Sunday.

For my money Hakoah was the better side on the day. Again, however, it lacked talent on the front line to finish its good moves.

But that penalty? Video replays more than enforce my view that it was a legitimate tackle that felled Hakoah front-runner Grant Lee on the left flank in the 22nd minute.

Lee, far and away Hakoah's most creative and penetrating forward, seemed the most surprised man on the park at the penalty decision by Sydney referee, Terry Seacy.

More damning was the comment Hakoah's coach, Eddie Thomson, after the game.

He described the decision as "dodgy".

The spot kick was taken by Australia's captain John Kosmina and of course converted



Peter Windsor

— although Canberra's goalkeeper Tony Franken made a valiant attempt to save and even managed to get a hand to the ball.

Tony Redmond and Jim Harkins and midfielders Steve Bryant and Tommy Sermanni played well for Canberra.

Andrew Brockbank chimed in so much with the attack that he was a third striker — and he, too, had a fine game.

It was Brockbank, in fact, who laid on a great Canberra goalscoring chance in the 64th minute. He made space on the left wing and his low cross left Alan Reis with the easiest of chances from a mere six metres. He had only goalkeeper Tony Pezzano to beat — but fired straight at the keeper.

For me the best of the Hakoah second-half efforts were a shot from Gerry Gomez that went wide and a Grant Lee chipped cross that beat Franken to be finally touched away for a corner by defender Roy Jones.

Canberra finished on top of Hakoah as it probed desperately for the opening that would at last bring an equaliser.

Full marks to youngster Manis Lamond. In his NSL debut, the 18-year-old looked impressive and obviously has a big and bright future.

Best for Hakoah were Lee, Watson and perhaps Murray while everyone in Canberra's back-line and midfield grafted hard all day — in particular Sermanni, Brockbank and Bryant, with the youngster Lamond doing well up front.

**Syd Croatia 2
Wollongong 0**

Venue: King Tomislav Park
Crowd: 300
Referee: Power 7
Scorers: Jurin 17th, Gaffney o.g. 61st

Wollongong coach Adrian Alston won't press the panic button after seeing his young team concede yet another defeat — this time against a slick Sydney Croatia side.



Philip Micallef

Alston said he was dismayed with the result but quite pleased with his side's display, especially in the second half.

"Croatia gave us little chance in the first half but after the break it was a different story," Alston said. "Our midfield looked well in control and we should have scored on a couple of occasions."

Wollongong in fact was unlucky not to score when Willis, who had a good game, twice hit the crossbar with Croatia goalkeeper Watson beaten.

Croatia coach Harry Noon was, contrary to Alston, happy with the result but not so much with his forwards.

Man of the Match:
ZELJKO JURIN
(Syd. Croatia)

"We should have put away more goals," Noon said.

But noon is confident his side, beaten only once in the past six rounds, is playing well enough to make the top five series.

CUMMING LEFT OUT, YANKOS SUPERB!



Laurie Schwab

**Melb. Croatia 0
Heidelberg 0**

Venue: Olympic Park
Crowd: about 5000
Cautions: Brogan (Cr), Stevenson (H), Yankos (H), Antolovic (Cr), Angelo (H)
(Referee: Jim Faen 7)

Brilliant goalkeeping, command-style hand-to-hand combat and the inspiring defensive play of Charlie Yankos kept the clash of the league leaders scoreless, but both teams had ample opportunities to win.

How did Robert Markovac miss from dead in front, after that unselfish square pass from David Brogan in the 34th minute? How did Peter Blasby manage to stop Steve Winn's first-time shot at point-blank range in the 77th and how unfortunate was it for Croatia that Tommy Cumming stumbled over the ball momentarily

Man of the Match:
CHARLIE YANKOS
(Heidelberg)

after a cut-back from Josip Biskic in the 61st?

Those and other flashes of goal-mouth action kept the crowd on its toes throughout the match.

And, fittingly — for this was a contest of the fiercest gladiators — there was lots of gore as well.

Five players were booked for violent play: Heidelberg captain Theo Selemidis had to come off with a leg injury after hobbling on the wing until the 35th minute; Steve Gojevic was taken to hospital for stitches to a deep cut over his right eye, from which blood flowed freely as he left the ground and Mike Valentine finished the game with blood streaming down his face.

League leadership was at stake. It just had to be a tough battle.

The draw was a fitting result — although the crowd would have preferred 2-2 rather than 0-0 — but it was a result which suited neither team as much as it did South Melbourne's Helias, who moved a point closer to both the league leaders after beating Juventus at Middle Park. Croatia coach Tony Vrzina made the amazing pre-match decision to leave Tommy Cumming on the bench, rather than change the team that had beaten Macedonia 3-1 the previous week. It was a decision which may have cost Croatia a victory.

Cumming, who had been suspended from the Macedonia match, replaced injured Gojevic in the 40th minute and what he did from that point onwards, suggested his presence would have been decisive during Croatia's best period — the first half-hour.

Cumming was left out in the vain hope of maintaining peace among the players. Fifteen well-established senior players are vying for 11 positions, and none of them likes to be left out.

So Vrzina reasoned that Cumming, who had missed the previous match, had to fight his way back the same way others have had to. In Cumming's absence, Jim Campbell retained a midfield position but after his long lay-off, Campbell was largely ineffective.

Heidelberg had to contend with the absence of stopper Don Macleod who was suspended. This meant that Joe Angelo moved to centre-back, Mike Valentine to left back, Scott Patterson to left midfield and Paul Tzintzis came into the team to partner Steve Winn and Stuart Stevenson up front.

It all worked fine. Angelo, directed and prompted by Yankos throughout the match, was strong in the middle of the defence. Valentine was up and down the line like a yo-yo, although Josip Biskic often got the better of him; Patterson really put his body about and was dangerous in the air when close to goal, and Stevenson was like a raging lion in attack, just like his Croatia equivalent, David Brogan.

But the single most dominant force was Charlie Yankos. He was all-powerful in defence, winning every header, and stopping countless attacks with his fearsome tackling, as well as coming close to scoring with a 30-metre free kick which Blasby palmed over the crossbar in the 84th minute. On this form Yankos will play for Australia until he's 40!

The result leaves Croatia unbeaten in 14 consecutive matches — ten in the league and four in the National Cup — while Heidelberg is unbeaten in six straight games.

And in drawing last Sunday,



Grim determination shows on the faces of Heidelberg's Ian McKie (left) and Croatia's David Brogan at Olympic Park. Picture by LES SHORROCK.



Tommy Cumming (right) who came on as a substitute, is foiled by goalkeeper Jeff Olver.

tables on Heidelberg, which had won their first-round encounter 5-2.

Croatia should have won in the first half last Sunday. Heidelberg should have won in the second half.

Croatia looked threatening when Brogan got a bounce off Yankos's body, sidestepped Angelo, and looked set to score. Goalkeeper Olver however, had come out quickly towards Brogan narrowing the angle so effectively that Brogan's low shot went wide of the far post.

But the best scoring chance came in the 34th minute. Gojevic played the ball short for Brogan running into the box, and Brogan stylishly slipped the ball to his right, for unmarked Markovac who, however, shot across goal when it would have been easier to score.

Olver's best save — a double save, really — came in the 43rd minute. He flew to block a drive from Brogan and without any time to recover, also managed to punch the ball virtually off the feet of Cumming who was storming in to finish off.

Biskic really was showing off his immaculate skills on the right wing. In the 61st minute he weaved past Valentine and Angelo in a move that would have brought roars of "Ole, Ole" from a Latin crowd. Having left them in his wake, Biskic cut the ball back from the line for Cumming who stumbled over the ball and in doing so, lost his chance to score. He recovered within a second, sure enough, but then his shot deflected off a defender who had moved in front of him.

But then the match swung

Croatia took the lead after only 17 minutes when a cross from Arnold was met by Yugoslav import Zeljko Jurin who gave Tilsed no chance with a fine volley.

Willis hit the crossbar for Wollongong just before half-time and after the break the visitors began to play better but were dealt a cruel blow when midfielder Larry Gaffney headed a corner from Clinch into his own net.

Luck remained firmly on Croatia's side 15 minutes later when Willis again struck the crossbar with Watson beaten.

Injuries ground Eagles

By
EMANUEL GRIMA

Man of the Match:
JOE SENKALSKI
(Rosebud)

**Melita Eag 1
N. Rosebud 3**

Scorers: Power 22nd, Todd 41st, Wilson 59th, Milosevic 90.
Referee: Ken Small 6
Crowd: 860.

With Silvio Demanuelle, Melita's star import, injured during the week and unable to play, Melita was dealt another blow when, during the warm-up, Billy Griffiths suffered an injury and was withdrawn from the side.

This should in no way detract from Rosebud's win, however. Rosebud played with a will to win and did its club proud despite all the problems that have surrounded its players — transfer fees, liquidators and so on.

At the start of this match, the Eagles looked a very determined outfit, creating a few good opportunities. But some poor finishing, coupled with fine goalkeeping by Clint Gosling denied Melita.

After eight minutes of play Melita looked set to score. Gosling's save from Derek Laing was first class but as the ball bounced away to Don Allan it looked curtains for the visitors. Gosling, however, dived at the feet of Allan to save.

After surviving the early onslaught, Newcastle-Rosebud slowly took over, using the wind to advantage and at times pushing the ball about the park in attractive style.

The open spaces at Melita Stadium gave rise to some fine moves by the Rosebud attackers — it was now only a matter of time before it would score. In the 22nd minute, from a corner kick by Andrew Owens, Rosebud centre back Neville Power scored from a melee inside the area.

With a few minutes remaining in this half, Joe Senkalski took possession just inside Melita's half and stormed forward before sending a good cross to Derek Todd to plant wide of Hummel.

The Eagles came back strongly but their finishing was far from satisfactory. In the end it was left to centreback Wilson to show his team mates just how it is done. He picked up a short pass from Ray Farrugia after a free kick in the 59th to slam a great dive wide of Gosling for Melita's goal.

That was all Melita could do on the day and Dino Milosevic came into the picture in the last seconds to complete the triumph for Rosebud. Senkalski made the break and his cross was tucked away by Milosevic after Todd had missed.

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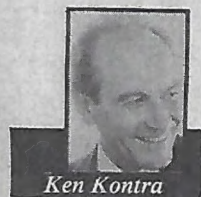
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Makedonia set for the finals



Ken Kontra

Makedonia 5 George Cross 2

Venue: Connor Reserve
Crowd: 1500
Scorers: McMillan 9th (M), Lane 14th (M), McGorrie 56th (G.C.), Dunn 65th (M), Dobson 72nd (M), Faulkner 84th (G.C.), Iliki 89th (M).
Yellow cards: Odzakov, Dobson.
Referee: Bernie Upjohn 7.

Coach Frank McAleer believes that his players are now more disciplined in their approach to the game, and this was the main reason for Makedonia's improved performance here.

Certainly, apart from about 20 minutes at the beginning of the second half when two goals in front, Makedonia's application and determination could not be questioned. It played as a unit rather than a loose combination of individuals, which was obvious in previous matches.

George Cross, although outgunned on this occasion, fought valiantly to the end, and if it is any consolation, it can be said that it went down fighting!

Both teams had a lot at stake. Makedonia is vying for a top five berth. George Cross, on the other hand, is desperately trying to avoid the big drop at the end of the season. After this match, Makedonia's aspirations are certainly more likely to eventuate.

Steve Potter's place went to former New Zealand international Richard Wilson and for George Cross, Alan Contini substituted for Tom Costello, who was unavailable due to illness.

Makedonia winger George Campbell, serving a week's suspension, was replaced in the line-up by new U.K. import Sean Lane. Lane a former Derby County player, had an impressive debut as target man, and could be just the player to give Gary Cole the support he needs up front.

In other positional changes, George McMillan moved to right full back, with Robbie Dunn and Ian Dobson looking after central defensive positions.

McMillan had a great game. He had the measure of George Cross striker Ossie Latif for most of the match as well as participating in attacking moves at every opportunity.

In fact, it was McMillan who started the goalscoring spree, when in the ninth minute he inter-

Man of the Match: GEORGE McMILLAN (Makedonia)

cepted a poor George Cross clearance, walked through the defence and netted after rounding Contini.

A few minutes later Lane met a Graham Heys cross from the right wing at the far post to give the home team a comfortable two goal lead.

Bobby Toal had his powerful shot well saved by Wilson, but generally, Makedonia was very much in control in the first half.

George Cross tried desperately to get back into the match early in the second half, and its efforts were rewarded when, in the 55th minute McGorrie broke through the middle, dribbled past Wilson and scored.

Two Heys corners however put an end to any hopes the visitors may have entertained. The first was headed home by Dunn. A few minutes later it was Dobson's turn to do likewise.

With six minutes remaining, McGorrie collected the ball in midfield and his penetrating run was illegally stopped by Dobson inside the penalty area.

Latif's penalty was parried by Wilson but Jeff Faulkner was on the spot to tuck the rebound away.

In the 89th minute, substitute Zoran Ilioski delivered the coup de grace when he beat Contini with an angled shot from 10 metres.

Thank God for Martin

SM-Hellas 1 B. Juventus 0

Scorer: Egan 39th.
Venue: Middle Park.
Crowd: about 3,000.
Cautions: Blair, Postecoglou (SMH), Gerasimidis (B.J.).
Referee: Bambridge 8.

If George Martin didn't have such good reflexes and Hellas's finishing had been a bit better, there's no way that Brunswick Juventus would have escaped with only a 0-1 loss.

Juventus was horrible up front. It was frightening to see how inept this side was in attack and in midfield. Earning for those of us who want the National League to continue and want fans to come back to the games.

I've never seen Rob Cullen play so poorly. Just about every time he got the ball all he wanted to do was run with it until he was tackled and lost possession. Savas Sagiama showed off a bit of fancy footwork in the first 15 minutes but from then until his substitution in the second half you had to look long and hard to find him.

Gary Ward played a couple of great balls, won a couple in the air and that was just about all. Eddie Campbell slung over crosses but not many and not well-directed enough.

And what was the point any-



Jubilant Brisbane City after its win against Brisbane Lions. From left, rear: club official, A. Pagan, B. Hamilton, G. Bromfield, L. Fabrizio, K. Wishart, coach J. Gilroy, F. Pimblett, T. O'Maya. Front: K. Swan giving the victory sign, S. Perry, M. Milovanovic, F. Mengotti, F. Liddell, S. Walsh. Picture by CARLOS PICASSO.

City turns the tables

Brisb. City 1 Brisb. Lions 0

Scorer: Fabrizio 2nd.
Venue: Spencer Park.
Crowd: 1572.
Cautions: Niven, Vasquez, Dault (BL), Hamilton (BC).

It took just 79 seconds for Brisbane City to score its first winning derby goal in two years against Lions at Spencer Park.

City had not beaten its NSL neighbour since the second round of 1982 but caught Lions napping immediately after the kick-off.

Despite playing into a strong wind, City pushed forward quickly and a long pass into the penalty box was nodded across the goal by Steve Walsh.

He found Luciano Fabrizio unmarked and only eight metres out.

Such was the space given to Fabrizio, he had time to control the ball and pick his spot before side-footing into the bottom left hand corner well out of the reach of 'keeper Rob Farrow.

Despite the early setback, Lions had much of the play for the remainder of the match and deserved at least a point on the chances they created.

But the absence of star striker Joe Cairney proved a telling setback for the Lions.

Cairney injured a thigh



Craig Mackenzie

way, of playing the ball in the air? Cullen and Andrew Zinni were up front and Steve Blair was having a ball. When Kevin Swinscoe was injured and replaced by Joe Sweeney, Juve went man for man on Doug Brown and Charlie Egan, with Brian Brown as sweeper, used four in midfield and three up front. It didn't make any difference.

Sweeney played in midfield until late in the game and when he did get forward he won a few balls in the air but there was no one there to feed off him.

In fact, Juventus was so disappointing that quite a few Hellas players were able to cruise throughout the match. Oscar Crino, Alan Davidson and John Kanesoulis never turned it on. So what. They didn't have to.

Juventus couldn't even capitalise on Peter Laumets' dreadful judgement in the 49th minute. Ward sent a brilliant 40 metre through ball to Cullen. Laumets charged well



Ricky Rosso

muscle on Saturday morning during a routine fitness test when he was hit by a hamstring injury, which had healed. He is expected to be sidelined for at least another week — and that's good news for Makedonia which visits Richlands on Sunday.

Lions also will be without talented young sweeper Roddy Vasquez, who will be suspended.

Vasquez was one of three Lions players booked by Queensland referee Gordon Nicholson.

Some of Nicholson's decisions angered even the winning City fans and there were reports of a skirmish outside the referees' dressing room.

The two points kept City in the top five race while the loss pushed Lions back down the table and possibly out of contention for a finals berth.

And Lions definitely deserved a point.

Apart from the goal, the out of the Hellas area and with the goal exposed, Cullen lobbed wide.

Hellas had a 1-0 lead at the time. In the 39th minute Charlie Egan's non-stop running and perseverance paid off when Joe Sweeney tried to head the ball back to Martin. Sweeney didn't head firmly enough and Egan nipped in, sending a hard, low shot past Martin and in off the far post.

Two minutes into the second half Martin made a superb reflex save to deny Crino and shortly after, when Cullen blew his great chance, most Juventus fans were thinking about going home. And you couldn't blame them.

But what a character Martin is. He blew a kiss to the Hellas fans before the start of the game and in the second half he charged well out of his penalty area and instead of clearing the ball downfield or kicking it out he decided that he'd show Doug Brown just how good he was at shielding the ball. It was quite a comical sight. There was the Juventus goal exposed and about 30 metres away, near the touchline, Brown was trying in vain to rob Martin.

John Dowie was the only Juventus midfielder worth his spot. The only blemish on Dowie's performance was the way he charged in to confront Hellas players after a Juventus player was downed with a bad challenge. He did that a couple of times and really, what was the point? Dowie surely is too experienced to think that threatening gestures like finger pointing really work. The best referee in Australia, Chris Bambridge, was in charge so if you can't trust Bambridge to pick up any over-the-ball stuff, who can you trust?



Man of the Match: FRANK PIMBLETT (Brisbane City)

only other time City looked like scoring was when Frank Pimblett curled a shot around Farrow but saw his attempt hit the upright.

Pimblett had a fine game and his work rate and marshalling in the middle of the park — the first time in two years Lions have given him the space to do so — proved the difference between the teams.

Lions, though, had ample opportunities to win or equalise. They had two shots cleared off the line, saw a Steve Jackson pile-driver hit the woodwork and squandered several other scoring opportunities by hesitating inside the box.



Alex Vesic

SOPER BACK IN FORM

Penrith 0 Sydney Olympic 1

Scorer: Patikas 53th
Venue: Cramer Park
Referee: Peter Rampley 8
Crowd: about 1000

Just over 1,000 spectators at Cook Park, predominantly Sydney Olympic supporters, cheered their team to its ninth victory of the season, but some improvements are needed if the side is to challenge for honours. Penrith, with Roy Cotton sidelined by injury, almost matched its much-fancied opponents and showed a lot of courage.

Brian Jackson and Ian Hunter caused their opponents a lot of problems and with a little more composure up front, anything could have happened.

On the bright side for Olympic, its star striker, Marshall Soper had a strong match, often beating McIntosh with ease despite some close attention.

Jimmy Patikas drove his header through a maze of bodies on the stroke of an hour to give Sydney Olympic a narrow but well deserved victory.

Olympic made hard work of this match.

Mark Koussas was the culprit and his great touch for goals is still missing. He was in great shape to score on at least three occasions during the first period but missed with two of his attempts, while Michael Gibson made a brilliant save on the third occasion.

Raskopoulos hit the crossbar and Patikas failed to find the net from close range after beating McIntosh and



Man of the Match:

MIKE GIBSON (Penrith)

Daley close to the line, to add to Olympic's problems.

Penrith, despite its territorial disadvantage and playing strictly counter-attacking, almost "Watford style" football, was not without its own chances.

Brian Jackson made a break in the 33rd minute before pushing his pass to Ian Hunter who in turn found an unmarked David Fitzharris but his shot from close range went straight at Gary Meier.

Brian Jackson had another opportunity only two minutes later. Seven metres from goal and with the ball bouncing at a pleasant height, Jackson volleyed but over the bar. Then came another opportunity, this time for Fitzharris after a smart move by Penrith, but Fitzharris shot wide.

Almost from the kick-off in the second half Olympic should have gone ahead. Patikas found Koussas on the edge of the area and Koussas turned Paul Daley with ease to face Gibson. It looked curtains for the big man but alas the shot by Koussas was so weak it hardly reached Gibson.

At the other end Penrith scored and it appeared that the linesman kept his flag down, yet referee Rampley judged a Penrith player to be in an off-side position. Not many protests from the Penrith bench or players, assuming that the decision was a correct one.

Penrith also was denied in the closing stages as Ian Hunter scored but on this occasion Hunter was offside as he drove past Meier.

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Victorian players, training last week under national youth coach Jim Shoulder. From left, standing: Shoulder, Greg Cunningham (physio), Steve Tasios, Alan Rodhouse, Robert Markovac, Stuart Lee, Corrado Nobilo, Peris Tzambanis, Chris A'Heen, John Kanesoulis, Frank Sabbatino, Tim White. Front: Anastasios, Kotzamisichalis, John Metaxas, Ernie Tapal, Darren White, Victor Cristaldo, Con Kikos.

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Papallo—we need a truly national National League

APIA president Nick Papallo says that the present National League format lacks a truly national flavor and is too complicated for most soccer fans.

"This year our gates, as with all National League clubs, are well down. I haven't got the answers but I've got an idea as to how this came about," said Papallo.

Breaking the league into two sections (an Australian Conference and a National Conference), knocked a lot of interest out of the competition. We once were working towards a truly national competition and that's what I believe people want to see. The format of this year's competition is complicated and it doesn't take much for people on the fringe of being soccer fans to drop off.

Papallo also is critical of the one-month break in the league program, held recently during the World Series tournament.

That one-month break hurt us. A lot of people had just too much soccer crammed into that period and let's face it, a lot of fans came back to the local soccer scene highly critical of its standard. To some extent, you can't blame them for they'd just been watching teams like the great Juventus of Italy in action.

The APIA supreme also points to the scheduling of junior matches as a cause of flagging attendances.

Too many juniors are playing on the same days as the National League clubs. That has to stop. We're not getting enough kids to our games and that's going to hurt us. It means that we're losing the support of their parents right now and the support of these kids, as players as well as spectators, in the future. We need the support of the state federations to reschedule junior matches.

Papallo, especially in regard to NSW, praises what he sees as a far healthier relationship between the National League and the state federations.

"The states are becoming more co-operative each year. Take the example of NSW. John Constantine is the NSW president and he's a man who understands the difficulties

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

of nurturing a National League club, having been president of Sydney Olympic."

Papallo, 46, is a lawyer, having graduated from Sydney university. He's married with two sons — aged 13 and 15 — and was honorary Italian vice-consul in Sydney for six years. He was born in Italy and came to Australia in 1949. He's been president of the APIA clubs for seven years.

Papallo was the instigator of APIA forming a separate company from the social club, which no longer could subsidise the soccer club this year. Under his firm leadership, APIA started to phase out signing-on fees last year, a move which has been completed this season. And Papallo is hopeful that APIA's expenditure this year can be slashed to below \$200,000. If successful, the club will have taken a giant step toward securing its future for APIA, as with most National League clubs, has incurred an annual expenditure, since joining the NSL in 1979, of around \$300,000.

APIA enjoyed its best year, financially, in 1982, when its income exceeded \$160,000, a figure unlikely to be reached this season.

"You have to concede that no one city can have 12 big clubs and survive. Most soccer cities around the world have only two really big clubs.

The cake just isn't big enough to be divided among a lot of clubs. We have to face that fact.

"More than once in a season, you think about the wisdom of continuing in soccer. Sometimes you get disappointed at all the work you put in for such a small return.

"But the National League must continue. It's no less attractive this year, even given the regionalised format, than in previous years. Some of the teams play some great soccer.

"We've got to keep going. We've done a lot for the standard of the game in this country."



APIA's 1983 team. Back row: Jim Bottalico, Mark Brown, Greg Woodhouse, Arno Peter Jones, Ian Gray, Bertie Mariani. Front row: Paul Carter, John Bradley, Peter Tredinnick, Tony Morsello. Pictures by CARLOS PICASSO.

Bottalico's boys flying higher than expected

If APIA Leichhardt finishes second in the Australian Conference this season, it will have exceeded all expectations and coach Fil Bottalico, along with his players and president Nick Papallo will be the men who can claim most credit.

"When we started to plan for this season we didn't even know whether

By CRAIG MacKENZIE

or not we'd be in the National League because finances were so hard come by," said Bottalico.

We sold Paul Carter to Marconi, Seb Giampaolo and Walter Valeri to Inter Monaro, Greg Woodhouse to Sydney Croatia and Rod Skellern to Blacktown and Bertie Mariani returned to Marconi. They were all first team players, all valuable members of last year's squad. "The squad last year numbered about 16 or 17 players but we didn't have big

money with which to buy players this year and the squad had to be cut down to just 14. I thought to myself, if we finish in the middle of the table we'll be doing well but if we finish second it will have been a fine achievement."

Bottalico prides himself on his relationship with his players. He sees himself as a straight forward person and likes to think that his players recognise that and appreciate that quality in a coach. He's also full of praise for the character of the APIA players.

"We've got an absolutely tremendous bunch of lads. I don't distance myself

as a coach. Me and the players are friends more than anything else.

"If you work hard and do the right thing, you'll do well. If you find players who are interested in playing first rather than playing for money, you'll be alright. If you find players who primarily are interested in playing for money then you're in trouble."

So let's look at the 14 players in Bottalico's first team squad and his assessment of them.

BOBBY PARKS (Goalkeeper): "One of the best keepers in Australia for me. Good in the air with good reflexes. He's 29, so he's nearing his peak as a goalkeeper. He was playing really well until he got injured against Blacktown this year."

BOB CATLIN (Goalkeeper): "He's going to Australia's number one keeper. We got him from Manly when he was 16. He's just 18 now but what potential he's got. He's tall, he's strong and he's really confident. He made his National League debut for us against Heidelberg a couple of weeks ago. The other thing I like about him is that he's not scared to attack the ball."

VIC BOZANIC (Defender): "We signed Vic on loan from Marconi this year for \$3,000 with the option of buying him at the end of the season. Vic's tough and experienced. He's also got a really good shot and loves to overlap."

MARK BROWN (Defender): "Mark's only 20 but what a tough and skilful full back he is. He's come up from our juniors and established himself last season. He's very comfortable on the ball and like Vic Bozanic, likes to go forward."

ARNO BERTOGNA (Defender): "At the moment, Arno is our destroyer. He's playing sweeper right now which isn't his best position. He's more at home as a stopper but nevertheless, Arno is doing a great job for us and he's a great influence on the team. We signed him from Wollongong last year. It's a pity that work commitments stopped him from playing for Australia this year in the World Series tournament."

● **APIA coach Fil Bottalico was born in Egypt of Italian parents and played for top Egyptian club Zamalek. His appearance in APIA colors in 1959 heralded a long, illustrious playing and coaching career in Australia. APIA played in four Australian Cup finals in the 1960's, winning one — in 1966 — with a 2-0 victory Sydney City Hawks. After 13 playing seasons with APIA, eight as captain, Bottalico was appointed assistant coach in 1974 to Tom Anderson. In 1976, Bottalico became first team coach and took APIA to the premiership and a win in the State Cup. The following year, inspired by Bottalico, APIA won the Grand Final. APIA entered the National League, via amalgamation and eventual takeover of Western Suburbs in 1979, and Bottalico regained the coaching reins for the 1983 season.**

MARK PULLEN (Defender): "The best stopper in Australia. Definitely! I'm absolutely amazed that he hasn't been picked in the Australian team because he's got everything. He's fast, he's good in the air, he's strong and his disposal is good. He's just 26, so he's nearing his peak."

IAN GRAY (Midfielder): "An Australian international. Like Mark Pullen, Ian has got everything going for him. He's young and he's very fast. And he can control the ball really well at full speed which is an attribute every good attacking midfielder should have. He's also got a great shot. Ian Gray can cement a place in the national team for sure."

TERRY BUTLER (Midfielder): "The veteran. What can you say about this man who has given APIA 11 years of senior service after joining the club as a junior? He has an enormous heart. He doesn't know when to stop trying. He's our midfield general."

PETER TREDINNICK (Midfielder): "An Australian international. He played with the Socceroos in Singapore last year and was very, very unlucky not to be picked

for the Socceroos during World Series. He's very fit, control is excellent. He's hoping that he can get a national team."

TONY MORSELLO (Forward): "Really good player who much better if he really plays it. Tony's a bit lazy and I onto him about that but he is very, very good. Like I apply myself more, he's player."

JOHN BRADLEY (Forward): "Forwards him cheeky. And that's player he is. Off the field he's a gentleman but on the field and tease the best defend hard to stop. He's fast, he shot and his ball control is

KERRY CABAN (Forward): "Forwards Kerry from Newcastle is great on the ball. He's well, in fact no-one can get him. His passing is good, he's an ideal target man, unlucky in front of goal, great scoring position haven't been going as good terms of getting goals, as he'll get there. And remember has two men on him. He's can establish himself in League."

ROB DE CEGULIE (Forward): "Forwards lucky. He couldn't get it when we were winning, son. I can use him in mid wing. He's very fast but impatient. He wants to do a second. I've been telling down, not to rush things. If young player. He's just 21."

TONY GENOVESE (Forward): "Forwards the juniors. Very, very fast shot in either foot. He's a got a big, big future."

Anniversary celebrations

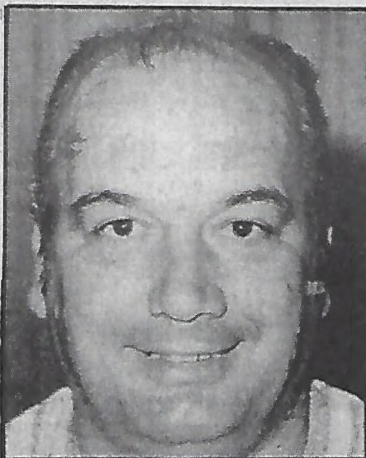
APIA is celebrating its 30th year as one of the greats of Australian soccer.

The club is holding a huge anniversary dinner this Friday, August 17, to celebrate the club's foundation 30 years ago by a group of Australian and Italian workers at the Kurnell oil refinery.

Coincidentally, the dinner also will celebrate the 20th anniversary of APIA's first Grand Final win in 1964.

The Guest of Honor at Friday night's dinner is Mr. Laurie Brereton, the Minister of Works for NSW.

Many past APIA greats will be in attendance. All former players, officials and supporters are invited to attend this historic dinner. For further information phone the APIA club on (02) 810 0187.



APIA coach Fil Bottalico

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Leichhardt

30 YEARS OF GLORY

By ALEX VESIC

"We won the Ampol Cup three times, the NSW Federation Cup twice, the Rothmans Cup once, topped the NSW premiership four times and finished in second place five times. We qualified nine times for the grand final, winning four times since our first success in 1963, and that is a record one can't just talk about. We were the best among the best and we had to do something to get back among the best, for only that way we can again strive for the top."

That's how APIA president Nick Papallo summed up his club's amalgamation with Western Suburbs at the end of 1978 and entrance to NSL ranks. Wests eventually pulled out of the deal, leaving APIA as a newcomer to the National League.

APIA's return to top company was none too soon, for few clubs can boast such a proud record in Australian soccer.

With Mr Jim Bayruti as its founder member, APIA started in a small competition — Sydney's Canterbury District Association — in 1954 as an amateur club but quickly rose to rank among the top clubs with the formation of the new governing body known as the NSW Federation of Soccer Clubs.

It was in 1959 that APIA showed its teeth by finishing second to Prague in the league premiership. The same year APIA qualified for the grand final but was beaten by Prague. The following year APIA came second, again to Prague, and in 1961 the club slid down the ladder to finish seventh.

In 1962, the year of the formation of the famous Australia Cup, APIA started well in the early rounds and was favoured to do well in the Federation Cup as well as Australia Cup. On May 28, 1962, fortunes changed, with an unfortunate 5-2 defeat at the hands of Budapest and the team finished second in the league with 29 points to Budapest's 30. APIA's goal difference was far superior (65-38) to Budapest's

(61-45), but that one point between the sides was sufficient to keep APIA behind its arch rival.

Yugal won the inaugural Australia Cup, and APIA managed to win the Federation Cup, its first major trophy, and only one of many to come.

The following year, APIA finished second, again to Prague but managed to beat Prague in the major semi-final and qualify for the grand final.

Alas, despite some good showing early, APIA was beaten soundly by South Coast 4-0 and had to wait yet another year in search of success.

After 17 rounds of the 1964 season, South Coast led by a point from APIA, but the Leichhardt team stormed home in the closing stages to take the Premiership with 31 points (59-25), from Budapest on 28 points (53-34). It was APIA's magnificent forward line with young Johnny Wattiss at the helm, which made the difference in the end.

APIA then qualified to play in the grand final against Budapest. Johnny Warren and John Wattiss, two of the brightest young stars in Australia, were pitted against each other.

Some 18,000 people turned up to see the game in which Budapest had the better of play in the first half but still went into the dressing room at half time losing 1-2.

But if there was any doubt about the first half it was quickly dispelled in the second, as Wattiss slammed in five great goals to completely shatter Budapest.

APIA won 7-2, recording the biggest grand final win to date, with Johnny Wattiss as hero.

The same year APIA was tipped to win the coveted Australia Cup, qualifying for the final in Melbourne against the local side George Cross. Wattiss and Jaros netted for APIA to give the visitors a great chance of winning, but an unfortunate own goal by an APIA defender gave George Cross a 3-2 win.

In the semi-final of this great competition, APIA repeated its success over Budapest, winning 4-1.

APIA led the competition in 1965 but after being beaten by South Coast (3-4) slid down the ladder to finish third behind its arch rivals, South Coast and Budapest.

Without Falconer and Sinclair who returned to their native Scotland, APIA lost the rhythm that had carried them to so many important wins the previous season.

Ricardo Campana, one of the finest players to grace the soccer turf in Australia, arrived to boost the playing staff at APIA, but failed to give the team its quota of points needed for top place.

However, this situation quickly changed, APIA winning the competitions in 1966, then in 1967. The 1967 runaway win for premiership honours is best illustrated by the final count, APIA with 37 points and 65.19 goals in first place, Budapest with 31 points (43-26) in second place.

In 1966 APIA won the Ampol Cup but failed to impress in grand finals that year and in '67. The following year (1968) APIA finished third but managed to qualify for the grand final, losing to Hakoah, thanks to a vital goal by Johnny Wattiss who was now a member of the Hakoah team.

A change in club policy over "star-players" brought about a downturn in APIA's fortunes and for a number of years, APIA stayed among the mediocre clubs, floating about the middle of the table. In 1969, despite finishing fourth, APIA managed to win the grand final but that memorable team was soon to disperse, leaving APIA a very ordinary side.

Let's look at the line-up that carried APIA through four successive grand finals before finally winning in 1969.

Taylor, van Blerk, Ackertley, Hughes, Sambrook, Bortolico, McKinnon, Blue, Campana, Campbell and Giacometti. Kiddie and Wentzel also were in the squad.

The decision to produce its own flow of stars was a sound one but it had to go along with another important one — to keep its star layers about, if for no other reason than to help develop the new material.

But Bortolico left at the end of the '69 season and a few others followed. APIA still managed to win the pre-season Ampol Cup competition, then "evaporated" in the next few years from the scene of success.

Finally the decision-making committee reverted to

the star-policy and a few players were purchased in 1973. Among others, Jimmy Rooney and Peter Oller-ton found their way into the APIA team.

It did not take long for APIA to show their old bite. With the Ampol Cup as their first objective in 1974, APIA crushed all before them to qualify for the final. It was the greatest win by a Cup winner to date, with APIA banging in nine goals to beat Auburn 9-1.

APIA won the premiership in 1975 but lost the grand final. The following year, the tables were turned, with APIA not winning the premiership but making up for that loss with a well-deserved grand final win.

It was an APIA performance that Sydney soccer writers won't forget in a hurry. With Willy Wallace, Jimmy Rooney and Billy Rogers in midfield, APIA kept blazing away to completely outplay the mighty Saints. And while Harris, O'Shea and Abonyi managed to stop the APIA engine room performing for a while it all changed in the second half.

APIA threw caution to the wind and attacked strongly to post the winner through Doyle in the 61st minute.

It was to be APIA's last major honor in NSW soccer.

Fans were shocked when APIA, one of the most powerful clubs in the country, decided against joining the National League when that competition was being constructed late in 1976.

Efforts were made to secure an application for membership of the league from APIA. They failed. So APIA sat out the first two years of the NSL, opting to play in the NSW State League, surrounds which didn't do justice to this proud club.

Eventually, APIA decided that it was time to get back among the best. Hence it's amalgamation with Western Suburbs, which had been a founder member of the NSL.

Jim Adam, who had guided West Adelaide to the NSL title in 1978, was appointed APIA's coach. For 1979, Peter Stone returned from a short stint with Tottenham Hotspur, Kenny Reed was bought from Victorian club George Cross and the APIA line-up boasted Greg Woodhouse in goal, Peter Wilson, Rod Skelton and Warren Turnbull in defence; Stone, Brian O'Donnell and Italian wizard Rosario Rampanti in midfield, and Reed, Terry Butler and Andy Scott up front.

Former Soccerero Ray Richards replaced Adam as coach that season and APIA finished 8th. Former Scottish international Willie Wallace coached APIA from 1980 until midway through the 1982 season when Australia's record international, Wilson, took over.

Under Wallace, APIA finished 8th in 1980 and 4th in 1981. APIA finished 8th in 1982 but Wilson had the distinction of guiding the club to its first ever National



Former APIA great Johny Wattiss.

League triumph when it won the Phillips Cup by beating Heidelberg 2-1 at Olympic Park in Melbourne with goals by Jim McBreen and Butler.

The great Fil Bortolico returned to the coaching helm for the 1983 season, taking the side to an 8th placed finish.

At the time of writing, APIA was second in the Australian Conference, poised to recall those heady days of the 1960's when the mere mention of the famous club's name was enough to strike terror in any opponent's heart.

No matter whether or not another National League honor comes APIA's way this season, this club has provided some of the greatest players and coaches ever to participate in Australian soccer. And with titles and cups galore to its credit, APIA's place of honor in Australian soccer is secure.



One of the great APIA sides of the 1960's. Back row: J. Provora (manager), George Nuttall, Pat Hughes, Ernie Campbell, Geoff McKinnon, Fil Bortolico, Brian Taylor, Cliff van Blerk, John Wattiss, Stan Ackertley, M. Massey (coach). Front row: F. Visano, Ricardo Campana, Archie Blue, Bill Kerklaan.

APIA's outstanding record:

- 1959 — Grand Final runner-up
- 1962 — Federation Cup winner
- 1963 — Grand Final runner-up
- 1964 — NSW premier, Grand Final winner, Australia Cup finalist
- 1965 — Grand Final winner, Australia Cup finalist
- 1966 — NSW premier, Federation Cup winner, Ampol Cup winner, Australia Cup winner, Grand Final runner-up
- 1967 — NSW premier, Australia Cup finalist, Grand Final runner-up
- 1969 — Grand Final winner
- 1970 — Ampol Cup winner
- 1974 — NSW premier, Ampol Cup winner
- 1975 — NSW premier, Rothmans Cup winner, Grand Final runner-up
- 1976 — Grand Final winner
- 1982 — Phillips Cup winner

The leaders

Nick Papallo, is the president of the APIA club and chairman of the soccer committee, which numbers 13.

The other members of the soccer committee are: Frank Sbisa (general manager), Mario Baroni, Domenic Ventolini, Giovanni Faraguna, Jose Blanco, Michael Spina, Vincenzo Mastrangelo, Cesare Marano, Con Arquilla, Giancarlo Addario, Claudio Bettosini, Enrico Visconti.

RY DINNER ON FRIDAY AUGUST 17
(drinks) For reservations ring 810 0187

Final hurdle for Falcons? VSF

SATURDAY
Knox City v Albion Rovers (draw) at Egan Lee Reserve, 3pm.
St Albans Dinamo v Croydon (draw) at Churchill Reserve, 3pm.
SUNDAY
Western Suburbs v Ringwood Wilhelmina (draw) at Ralph Reserve, 3pm.
Fawkner v Morwell Falcons at Smith Reserve, 3pm.
BOX HILL v Northcote at Wembley Park, 3pm.
POLONIA v Broadmeadows at Raleigh Reserve, 3pm.
Doveton v FRANKSTON PINES at Waratah Reserve, 3pm.

When Morwell Falcons step onto Smith Reserve this Sunday to take on Fawkner, they could be facing the final hurdle on their way to winning the 1984 State League championship.

Fawkner goes into the game at full strength. Morwell may not be so lucky for there's a doubt about big striker Ian Storton's fitness. Storton had to come off last weekend against St Albans Dinamo and if he's unable to play against Fawkner it will be a major blow to Morwell's chances for Storton now has scored 10 goals in seven games.

Boyle's return to midfield is a real bonus for Fawkner. Boyle and Ged Bannan will be up against

Morwell's Jim MacLean and Steve Moore. Boyle and Bannan are fierce competitors and the fur certainly will fly in the middle of the park.

I'm going for a draw because of Morwell's impressive defensive record but a win to Fawkner would open up the title race again.

I was fortunate enough to be out when Les Shorrocks dropped into my place last Saturday even-

ing to tell me all about the Monterey Boulevard game which dashed Box Hill's title chances. Shorrocks reckons that Fawkner still is in the hunt for the championship. He's right, of course, but we'll know more about his ability as a tipster come 3pm this Sunday.

The Hillmen still have a hell of a lot to play for, however. They're just four points clear of 5th placed Northcote and they meet the Northerners at Wembley Park this Sunday. I've stuck with Box Hill all season and I'm not about to abandon it now. And the latest rumor about the National League format for next season suggests

that the top four State League clubs all could be offered a spot in the NSL next year. That's more than enough incentive for Box Hill to end Northcote's top four hopes.

Frankston Pines finally returned to the winning list last weekend. If Pines make it two wins on end, they'll virtually have condemned Doveton to relegation. Even though the Doves are at home to Pines this Sunday, I'm tipping a Pines victory.

Polonia should beat Broadmeadows at Raleigh Reserve on Sunday to stay in touch with Falcons and Fawkner while the other game on Sunday, between

Western Suburbs and Ringwood Wilhelmina, looks a good draw bet.



Knox surprised Croydon last weekend and can expect to pick up another point when it faces Albion Rovers at Egan Lee Reserve on Saturday. St Albans and Croydon also meet on Saturday and again, I'm going for a draw.

Buffalo State League ladder

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MORWELL F.....	13	6	1	42	10	32
FAWKNER	12	5	3	50	27	29
POLONIA	12	5	3	46	26	29
BOX HILL.....	9	8	3	35	22	26
Northcote.....	10	2	8	44	31	22
West. Suburbs.....	9	4	7	38	41	22
F'ston Pines.....	5	8	7	24	31	18
Albion Rovers.....	6	6	7	18	25	18
R. Wilhelmina.....	5	7	7	29	30	17
Croydon.....	7	2	10	22	29	16
Knox City.....	6	4	11	26	48	14
Broadmeadows.....	5	2	13	19	39	12
St. Alb. Dinamo.....	2	7	11	23	43	11
Doveton.....	3	4	12	19	33	10

FRANKSTON PINES 3 (Dick 31st, 80th, Cummings 40th) BOX HILL 2 (Smith 14th, 87th) at Monterey Boulevard, Saturday.

FRANKSTON PINES: Stutchbury 6 U Thurlow 7, Cullen 8, Wilson 6 (Spencer 80th), Ferris 7 — Hodson 7 (Livingstone 65th), Ross 6, Cooke 7, Beech 6 — Cummings 7, Dick 8 Coach: Danny McMillan.

BOX HILL: McKinley 6 — L. Roodhouse 7, Brownlie 5, Brooks 5, A. Roodhouse 6 — White 6 (Taylor H.T. 6), Hughes 6, Valentine 6, Keenan 6 (Priestley 65th) — Smith 8 Azzopardi 6 Coach: Bill Murray.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3 Smith (Box Hill), 2 Dick (Pines), 1 Cullen (Pines).

BROADMEADOWS 4 (Watson 58th, 69th penalty, Simic 65th, 78th) DOVETON 3 (Nelson 5th, J. McDonald 38th, Buchanan 68th) at Laura Douglas Reserve, Saturday.

BROADMEADOWS: Grech 6 — Smart 7, Donaldson 8, Daniels 8, Deas 7 — George Watson 9, Horvath 6, Blair 7, Campbell 6 (Stoikos 73rd) — Simic 8, Vaccaro 6, Coach: Jim McIntyre. DOVETON: Radov 6 — Laleis 6, Gadsby 7, Dwyer 7, Fitzpatrick 6 — Buchanan 8, M. McDonald 6, Graham Watson 7, Edmondson 6 — Nelson 7, J. McDonald 6 (McLeod 62nd), Coach: Ian Williamson.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3 Watson (Broad), 2 Buchanan (Dove), 1 Simic (Broad).

MORWELL FALCONS 4 (Storton 25th, Clarke 70th, Webster 75th, Moore 80th) ST. ALBANS DINAMO 0 at North Crinigan Reserve, Saturday.

MORWELL FALCONS: Whiteside 7 — Higham 7, Bruns 7, Clarke 8, Train 7 — Bingham 8, Moore 7, MacLean 7, O'Callaghan 8 — Storton 7 (in Webster 50th) 7, Athersch 8, Coach: Jimmy Dunne. ST. ALBANS DINAMO: Debeljuh 7 — Kuzman 6, Brkicic 7, Radman 6, Bozic 7 — Rastocic 7, Batovic 6, Culina 8, Kustura 6 (Loo 70th) — Marovic 6, Mecanovic 6 (Krolo 70th), Coach: Pero Kasalo.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3 Clarke (Morw), 2 Athersch (Morw), 1 Bingham (Morw).

ALBION ROVERS 2 (Robertson 49th, D'Sylva penalty 72nd) POLONIA 4 (Tront 15th, Przybyla 20th, Gilder 35th, Mils 58th) at Selwyn Park, Saturday.

ALBION ROVERS: Bryden 7, Galea 7, D'Sylva 8, Gilmore 7, Gatt 8 (in Wilson 88th) — Purcell 7, Reilly 8, Alfonsi 7 (Rodriguez 60th), McMorrow 7, Bouzas 6, Robertson 7, Coach: Billy McIntyre. POLONIA: Fryzer 5 — Uplarski 7, McCuskey 7, Mils 8, Smolarek 7 — Mitten 7, Gardiner 7, Innes 7, Tront 8 (Gibson 65th) — Przybyla 8 (Petrov 88th), Gilder 8, Coach: John Gardiner.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3 Mils (Pol), 2 Gilder (Pol), 1 Reilly (Albion).

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA 0 FAWKNER 0 at Jubilee Park, Sunday.

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA: Lao 8 — Fryatt 6, Corke 7, Murray 9, Venniers 7 — Storm 8, Shannon 8, Burton 7 — Warsawski 7, Pilbeam 6 (Meyer 63rd), Stewart 8, Coach: Cor Teeuw.

FAWKNER: Terzini 5 — McKinlay 8, Cavallari 7, Macleod 7, Hobson 6 — Lia 4 (Boyle 63rd), Bannan 6 (Giacom 81st), Garvey 7 — Palinkas 5, Tuffield 6, Cozzella 8, Coach: Gus Macleod.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3 Murray (RW), 2 Cozzella (Faw), 1 Storm (RW).

CROYDON 0 KNOX CITY 1 (Smith 3rd) at Croydon Park, Sunday.

CROYDON: Kaster 7 — Rainey 7, Kerr 7, Brewerton 7, Brown 6 — Irvine 6, French 6 (Ludo Sala 74th), Singleton 6 — Livingstone 6, Loughnane 7, Killey 6, Coach: Colin Hurray.

KNOX CITY: Brian 8 — Stofels 6, Muller 7, Bissinger 6, Lesbirel 8 — Smith 8, Wild 7, Dixon 6 — Stack 7, House 6, Masters 6 (Gerrish 62nd), Coach: Eric Lesbirel.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3 Lesbirel (Knox), 2 Brian (Knox), 1 Smith (Knox).

NORTHCOLE 5 (Constantinou 10th, 20th, 35th, Micevski 35th, 42nd) WESTERN SUBURBS 2 (Coyle 60th, Dimovski 71st) at John Cain Reserve, Sunday.

NORTHCOLE: Giannopoulos 8 — Wilson 7, Katsakidis 6, Bozakis 6, Mihos 6 — Wright 7, Quigley 8, Toro 7 (Patinotis 80th) — Dionisopoulos 7, Micevski 7 (Bekiaris 75th), Constantinou 7, Coach: Jimmy Pyrgiolas.

WESTERN SUBURBS: Hunter 5 — Hamill 5, Dimovski 6, Howe 6, Lekkas 5 (Mathew H.T. 6) — Coyle 6, Espinoza 6, Mussel 6 — Lazopoulos 7, Stenson 6, Fittip 6, Coach: Jimmy Condilis.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3 Quigley (North), 2 Giannopoulos (North), 1 Constantinou (North).

SCHIPANO AWARD

Schipano Home Furnishers are sponsoring our 1984 State League Player of the Year award.

The winner receives \$1000 worth of furniture of his choice. Votes are cast on a 3-2-1 basis for each league game. In the event of a tie, the player making the least number of appearances will be declared the winner.

Leading votegetters:
25 — Smith (Box Hill)
18 — MacLean (Morw), Quigley (North), Burton (Wilhel), Lazopoulos (WS)
17 — Tuffield (Fawk), Stenson (WS)
15 — Mils (Pol)
14 — I. Roodhouse (Box Hill), Mitten (Pol)
13 — Bingham, Clarke (Morw), Culina (St A)

VSF Travel Club award

The VSF Travel Club, in conjunction with Ametco Travel, is sponsoring our 1984 State League Top Scorer award.

The winner receives a return trip to Singapore, flying Thai International.

Leading scorers:
19 — Smith (Box Hill)
15 — Tuffield (Fawk), Moore (Morw), Przybyla (Pol)
13 — Cozzella (Fawk), Lazopoulos (WS)
12 — House (Knox), Mitten (Pol), Coyle (WS)



This superb, flying header from Box Hill striker Steve Smith (right) opened the scoring at Monterey Boulevard last Saturday. At left is Pines defender Peter Thurlow. Picture by LES SHORROCK

Hillmen's title hopes take a tumble!

F'ston Pines 3 Box Hill 2

Scorers: Dick 31st, 80th, Cummings 40th (FP), Smith 14th, 87th (BH).
Venue: Monterey Boulevard.

Box Hill's championship aspirations took a nosedive at Monterey Boulevard on Saturday as Frankston Pines broke out of a 13-match winless streak to record a convincing victory.

Hill's supporters were on good terms with themselves in

the 14th minute when that dynamic striker, Steve Smith, scored with a magnificent flying header, a goal that he fashioned out of nothing, as Dave Azzopardi's cross seemed to be going out of his reach.

Azzopardi himself had the ball in the net shortly afterwards, but was ruled offside by referee Jim Dale.

But the euphoria didn't last long.

In the 31st minute Don Brownlie's poor clearance failed to relieve the Pines' pressure and after a dreadful mix-up in the Hill's defence, Alec Dick equalised.

Dick and John Cummings were proving a handful for Hill's veteran central defenders, Brownlie and Dave Brooks, and it came as no surprise when Cummings pounced on another weak clearance, this time by Brooks and slammed Pines into the lead.

Box Hill opened up the second half with substitute Ray Taylor for Darren White, who had mild concussion, and enjoyed its best period of the game.

Dave Stutchbury was called on to make several saves and once the crossbar saved him.

But as the Hillmen pressed forward for the equaliser, gaps opened up at the back, and in the 80th minute the ebullient Dick put the issue beyond doubt as he outpaced the defence for his second goal.

Dick indeed could have a hat-trick with a shot that sailed just wide, and in the dying minutes the burly Steve Spencer, who they tell me has a kick like a mule, forced John McKinlay to make a marvellous reflex save at point-blank range.

Smith added respectability to the Box Hill score when he forced the ball over the line after the Pines defence got itself in a terrible tangle, but it was all too late.

Box Hill coach Billy Murray, one of the game's thinkers, must now be getting very worried about his team's chances of finishing in the top four, especially as the Hillmen still have to play both Polonia and Fawkner.

Eight points from eight games, Box Hill's record since beating Fawkner, isn't very inspiring stuff.

R. Wilhelmina 0 Fawkner 0

Venue: Jubilee Park

A surprisingly competitive Ringwood Wilhelmina always looked capable of catching out Fawkner on the break.

Both sides used the long passing game. Fawkner kept looking for striker Ian Tuffield with long, high balls but Tuffield found it hard to judge his runs to the ball in such gusty conditions.

Wilhelmina used the long passing ability of Kees Storm to get Greg Warsawski and Kenny Stewart going and it was a tactic which almost paid off.

The big bonus for Fawkner here was the return from injury of midfielder Peter Boyle. He replaced a sadly out of touch Neo Lia in the 63rd minute. Boyle's importance to Fawkner cannot be overstated. He gives the side an option. Rather than simply hitting long balls in search of Tuffield, players can play through Boyle and play can be built up.

Both teams had enough chances here to win.

Pilbeam shot over in the 7th minute after a superb run by Stewart, then a great Stewart cross in the 27th minute was headed goalward by Warsawski and scrambled back by the Fawkner defence.

Fawkner's best chance came in the 60th minute. A long diagonal ball across the Wilhelmina area fell in between Neil Garvey and Stuart Lee. Garvey won the race to the ball but his first touch was blocked by Lee. With the Wilhelmina goalie on the ground, Garvey latched on to the ball a second time, this time lobbing over.

Stewart broke on to the end of a long ball in the 70th minute. He only had Rob Terzini to beat but rolled the ball wide of the far post.

Five minutes later, Bruno Gozzella turned superbly on the edge of the Wilhelmina area and cracked a shot on to the underside of the bar. Fred Murray cleared.

Wilhelmina's last chance came in the 92nd minute. Des Shannon was at the near post for a Stewart cross. Shannon's first time shot flew wide of the top far corner.

Far cry from L.A.

By JOHN WALLACE

Croydon 0 Knox City 1
Scorer: Smith 3rd
Venue: Croydon Park

Passion, excitement, high drama and scintillating entertainment — yes, Los Angeles certainly was the place to be on Sunday.

Unfortunately, Croydon Park was not the place to be as Croydon City and Knox City turned on an uninspiring match.

Knox City fans would not agree as their team pocketed two valuable points but good parts were few and far between. Certainly, the Croydon Park quagmire didn't help.

The mudheap was not conducive to good football. With such a low scoring record, how can Croydon fans be happy with their teams' performance? What's gone wrong with Croydon? For a start, its strikers have lost their touch, also, there is little

or nothing coming from the middle of the park.

Duncan Smith rammed home a beauty in exactly three minutes and 15 seconds. After that referee Barry Grant, with linesmen Nick Oak and Peter Brody, were not taxed and did their duty with a minimum of fuss.

Croydon's first real shot at goal didn't arrive until the 30th minute and its second effort, by Ian Loughnane from the right, was expertly taken by young goalie Robert Brian. In fact Brian, with only three real saves in the whole match, handled them in a thoroughly professional fashion.

After the break, Mike Rainey was unlucky with a powerful shot which whistled over the bar but Greg House was Knox City's culprit, missing out on four occasions.

How low is in a dangerous position, low on the ladder, and has to pull something out of the bag in its last six games to avert a threatening situation.

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INTER ALMOST THERE

State League standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
INTER MONARO.....	13	5	2	57	22	31
ROCKDALE ILINDEN	12	4	3	39	21	28
MANLY WARRINGAH	10	7	2	37	12	27
SUTHERLAND.....	10	5	5	33	19	25
Auburn.....	7	7	5	16	15	21
Polonia.....	6	5	8	21	27	17
Ku-Ring-Gai.....	5	7	8	23	32	17
Avala.....	5	6	8	27	36	16
Canterbury.....	5	5	10	18	40	15
Narabeen.....	5	4	10	21	36	14
Yugal.....	3	6	10	24	28	12
Bankstown.....	3	5	12	18	46	11

TOP SCORERS

15 — Valeri (IM), Brown (RI)
10 — Giampaolo (IM)
9 — O'Shane (Aub), Milne (AV), Jeffery (IK), Leak, Holloway (MW)
7 — Montaroso (IM), Groome (SI), Jesic (Y)
6 — Budini (Av), Willox (IM), Stuart (MW), Sobczyk (P)

THIS WEEK

Sunday: Cromer Park: MANLY v INTER MONARO; Knight Park: AVALA v CANTERBURY; Seymour Shaw: SUTHERLAND v YUGAL; Parklands: KU-RING-GAI v NARABEEN; Hurstville Oval: ROCKDALE ILINDEN v POLONIA.

CANTERBURY 0 AVALA 3 (Milne 21st, Budini 66th, Bratkovic 68th) at Arlington Oval.

CANTERBURY: Konistis 6 — Antonopoulos 6, Efthimiades 7 (Karispos 62nd — 8), Titlis 5, Lawa 6 — Hantzis 7, Andreou 6 (Philippou 70th), Anagnostopoulos 5 — Hall 6, Douma 5, Vassiliou 5.

AVALA: Thurlow 7 — Lembray 7, Budini 8, Mackenzie 7, Milne 9, Quigley 6, Bourke 6, Tracey 6, Williamson Neal 6, — Bass 7 (80th Hunter), Jeffery 6 (86th G. Williamson).

POLONIA 2 (Ovcarek 56th, 85th) KU-RING-GAI 0 at Chopin Park.

POLONIA: Barcar 7, — Divani 8, Galas 7, Fogarty 7, Pratt 8 — Vandenberg 6 (Uchinskiewicz 66th), Lumdsaine 7, Nowak 7, — Sobczyk 8, Kowalczyk 8, Ovcarek 7.

KU-RING-GAI: Prentice 6 — Bennett 6, Jesse 7, Watson 8, Ings 6, Quigley 6, Bourke 6, Tracey 6, Williamson Neal 6, — Bass 7 (80th Hunter), Jeffery 6 (86th G. Williamson).

YUGAL 0 AUBURN 1 (Parfitt 53rd) at Fraser Park.

YUGAL: Berry 6 — Pahor 7, Tomasich 7, Clarke 7, Marco 6, — Mihajlovic 6 (76th Coldarevic), Jesic 7, Zivkovic 5, Rodas 6, — Thamnides 4, Tanovski 6.

AUBURN: Rosano 7, — Kelly 8, Watt 7, Planinic 7, Keekie 7, — Akouras 7, Carney 6, Parfitt 7, Townsend 6 (O'Shane 69th), — Knight 7, Benales 6.

NARABEEN 2 (Rylands 51st, A. Dean 56th) SUTHERLAND 1 (Stoddart 40th) at Narabeen.

NARABEEN: P. Dean 8, — Mahoney 7, Hanley 7, Rylands 7, Collings 7, — Sarge 8, Garrett 5, Griffin 8, Bullock 8, — A. Dean 7, Sandner.

SUTHERLAND: Dart 7 — Hesford 6, Schumann 7, Dallomo 7, Terry 6, — Webber 8 (46th Hughes 5), Stoddart 6, Rogers 5, — Groome 5, Gray 5, Hargreaves 5.

BANKSTOWN 1 (Aponian 42nd) MANLY 3 (Pagano 15th, 73rd, Jones 80th) at Jensen.

BANKSTOWN: Lohman 5 — Agostino 7, Green 7, (Hassan 57th), Blackburn 8, Ishmail 8, — Dolton 6, Kennedy 7, Pavea 7, — El Hosseini 7, Apenian 6, Parker 5.

MANLY: Conradi 7, — Scobie 6, Dick 7, Williamson 7, Pearce 8, — Jones 7, Steven 7, Leak 8, — Pene 6, Pagano 8, Stuart 7 (Vale 80th — 6).

INTER MONARO: 1 (Valeri 24th) ROCKDALE ILINDEN 0 at Marco Polo.

INTER MONARO: Hocking 9, Domazetovic 8, Frances 8, Williams 8, Farell 7, Willox 7, Brennan 6, Valeri 6, Giampaolo 6.

ROCKDALE ILINDEN: Smith 6, Dagny 7, D. Wilson 7, Pilovski 6, G. Wilson 7 — Nastevski 6, Slavski 6, Jones 6, Trajanovski 7, (Ristovski 80th) Brown 5, Karanfilovski 8.

NSW State League with ALEX VESIC

Inter Monaro is a point away from becoming the new State League champion. Following its narrow 1-0 victory over Rockdale Ilinden at Marco Polo, Inter Monaro goes into the last two rounds needing only one point to secure the title.

Rockdale, the only side still in with a small chance of catching Inter, has to face Polonia and Manly. Inter must surely start its celebrations while Walter Valeri, following his winning goal against Rockdale, now is level pegging with Ross Brown of Ilinden in the top scorers' list.

Sutherland has slipped out of serious contention and could even find itself out of the top four despite its four point advantage at present. Auburn has a game in hand, but would have to defeat Polonia to come within two points of Sutherland with two rounds to go.

For Polonia, Ku-Ring-Gai and Avala the season is as good as over. They have nothing to lose and very little to gain.

At the lower reaches of the table it appears that Canterbury is safe. Narabeen also looks safe. Yugal has to get a point from its three remaining matches against Manly, Sutherland and Ku-Ring-Gai to slip to two points above Bankstown.

For last-placed Bankstown, times are grim, as Avala and Auburn stand in its way to survival. Neither Avala nor Auburn are keen to lose and Bankstown will have to work hard but I doubt very much that Bankstown will miss the drop.

Inter Monaro 1 Rockdale 0

Scorer: Valeri 24th
Venue: Marco Polo

In an evenly contested match, Inter Monaro took the points with the opportunism of Walter Valeri being the deciding factor.

Inter had a strong breeze at its back during the opening period but failed to make inroads against a very firm Ilinden defence. Then came an unfortunate error by the visitors, allowing Valeri to nip in and score.

Billy Pilovski attempted to head back to his keeper but his

header fell short of David Smith. Despite the header, Smith appeared to be close to the ball and ready to pick it up. He hesitated for a split second, and Valeri was in like a flash pushing the ball into the net to give Inter the lead.

Despite this goal Inter Monaro had to contend with a furious fightback by Rockdale during the second period and with Ambrosino and Santolin missing in its line-up anything was possible.

But Monaro's defence worked exceptionally hard and made Ilinden work overtime for any of its openings. The star of Monaro's defence was Michael Hocking.

Tim Davies, one of Australia's best referees, was on hand to officiate in this match, an obvious sign of good management by the NSWFF.

Yugal 0 Auburn Uruguay 1

Scorer: Neal Parfitt 53rd
Venue: Fraser Park

Yugal is in deep trouble following its 0-1 loss to Auburn at Fraser Park. One point against Auburn almost certainly would have given Yugal yet another year in State League.

As it was, that 53rd minute goal by Neal Parfitt proved enough for Yugal. The goal seemed to take away Yugal's will to fight. Parfitt was on hand to receive a pass from Carney, and with Berry off his line, it was no surprise to see the ex-Sydney City youth player lob Berry for the only goal of the game.

Following this goal Yugal slowed down to a walk and Auburn looked by far the better team. Tommy Mihajlovic, recently returned from Yugoslavia, failed to add much weight to Yugal's midfield with Chris Thamnides having a shocker up front. Without the injured David Forester, Yugal was further troubled.

For Auburn, it was a wel-



Gary Sandner of Narabeen shields the ball from Sutherland's Hesford last Saturday. Narabeen won 2-1. Picture by ALEX VESIC.

come return to the winning circle.

Polonia 2 Ku-Ring-Gai 0

Scorer: Ovcarek 56th, 85th
Venue: Chopin Park

Henjek Ovcarek, the man who almost left Polonia and was trialling with Auburn, return to his old club recently and was the star of his side.

Scott Lumdsaine provided the spade work for Ovcarek in the 56th as his cross eluded Ku-Ring-Gai's defence to see Ovcarek score. Following this goal Ku-Ring-Gai seem to slow down even further with Bertram's absence very noticeable at the back despite a fine effort by Watson to hold this line together.

With five minutes remaining, Ovcarek showed speed in beating Bennett to reach a through ball before lobbing Prentice for his second goal.

Narabeen 2 Sutherland 1

Scorer: Stoddart 40th, Rylands 51st, Dean 56th

Two great headers from Narabeen during the start of the second half decided the

issue at Narabeen Sports Centre, but the home side let Sutherland off the hook despite its win.

Johnny Stoddart was the scorer from a free kick in the 40th minute, driving his left footer wide of Peter Dean.

Sutherland lost Jimmy Webber through injury and brought on Steve Hughes for the second half. Without Webber, its driving force in midfield, Sutherland lapsed. There was no stopping Kenny Sarge and Greg Griffin in midfield and with a little more help from John Garrett, Narabeen might have been in complete command.

A corner kick by Billy Bullock in the 51st saw Rylands score with a diving header, then five minutes later another corner kick by Byullock saw Allan Dean get up high to nod the ball past Dart for the winner.

Bankstown National 1 Manly Warringah 3

Scorer: Pagano 15th, Apenian 42nd, Pagano 73rd, Jones 80th

A strong wind and an uneven surface failed to dampen the enthusiasm of lowly-placed

Bankstown National in this do-or-die match at Jensen. After falling a goal behind from a Bobby Pagano shot in the 15th, Bankstown came back to equalise with three minutes left in this half.

Pagano's goal had a stroke of luck in it. Pagano's intention was to cross into the middle, but the ball sailed over the head of Lohman, thanks to the strong wind and carried over the line. With three minutes left in this half, Billy Green found El Hosseini and following a quick flick by Hosseini in came Apenian to push it past Conradi.

Bankstown continued to play well during the second period and looked set to take at least a point until Pagano came in for his second. A cross by Steven eluded Lohman and Pagano eluded it over the line for number two. With 10 minutes remaining, a through ball by Simon Pene and a fumble by Lohman, allowed Roy Jones to tuck it away and secure the points for Manly.

Canterbury 0 Avala 3

Scorer: 21' Milne, 66' Budini, 68' Bratkovic

Nikola Duvnjak, an ex-Yugoslav youth international, was the star of the show as Avala subdued a lacklustre Canterbury at Arlington Oval.

Duvnjak's skills baffled Canterbury from the opening whistle. With pin-point accuracy he distributed to create some easy openings for his team mates but to no avail, with Richie Williams the main culprit.

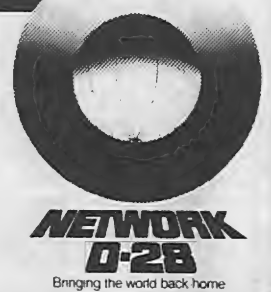
However, a Williams cross was tucked away by Gary Milne in the 21st; and from then on it was just a matter of by how many.

Ricky Budini scored his sixth goal of the season to put the issue beyond doubt in the 66th minute. Duvnjak took a free kick, and Budini trapped close to the line before blasting his shot past Konistis.

Two minutes later, Mick Bratkovic was the recipient of yet another brilliant pass by Duvnjak before shooting goalwards. His first shot rebounded off a defender for Bratkovic to pick up and round an opponent; then slot his shot wide of the keeper.

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FRANKSTON PINES

SOCCER ACTION Club close-up

Frankston Pines' 1981-82 season was known as The Pines' Best Season Club. It entered a senior team in the South of the Yarra League in 1967 and finished runner-up. Pines were District League champs in 1968 and 1972 and in 1973, their first venture into Professional League ranks, they won the championship. In 1977, Pines finished fourth in the Provisional League. Clinching the 1978 Provisional League championship, thanks to a magnificent 17-goal unbeaten streak, Pines averted relegation. In 1979, the club won the Fourth Division championship. Pines' surge toward State League continued in 1980 when they won the Third Division title. They finished second in Second Division in 1981, fourth in First Division in 1982 and their second placed finish last year took them into State League for the first time in their history and saw them crowned an outstanding team in Victorian soccer.



Picture by LES SHORROCK

Back row: Danny McMinnee (Coach), Alan Stirling (Vice-President), John Cummings, Peter Thurlow, Dave Stutchbury, John Cullen, Gordon Livingston, Tommy Mitchell (Team Manager), Billy Lewis (Youth coach), Campbell Tervit (Committee).
Front row: Alec Dick, Jimmy Wilson, Steve Beech, Paul Cooke, Andy Hodgson, David Ferris, Jimmy Ferris (Trainer).

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Can Aberdeen stay on top in Scotland?



Cammy Fraser — joined Glasgow Rangers

When Jock Wallace walked out on Rangers in 1978 for reasons still undisclosed to this day, he left behind a team which had just completed the illusive "treble" of premier division title, Scottish Cup and League Cup.

Since then the league championship — the only true symbol of success in the eyes of Rangers' supporters — has not paid the £100 trophy room the courtesy of a return visit. But last Saturday fast successes and failures were forgotten as a new Scottish season spluttered into life, offering an alternative to the Olympics and throwing up the prospect of the most unpredictable title chase for some time.

Can Wallace work another miracle with Rangers just eight months into his second term as manager?

Will champion Aberdeen suffer from the loss of several key players, or have Dundee United or Celtic a deep enough

reservoir of young talent to throw down serious challenges?

Those four clubs must surely corner the trophy market in the 1984-85 season, with perhaps Hearts as possible outsiders to sneak through quietly and cause some damage.

Rangers begin their new campaign with a manager who is a proven winner. Within four months of succeeding John Greig last November, Wallace was back on the "winners' rostrum", clutching the League Cup after a thrilling extra-time victory over Celtic.

Then, while most players swarmed from the sunny beaches of Europe during the summer, Wallace dragged his team by

the lapels on a gruelling world tour which was costly in terms of manpower but indispensable in terms of player-manager communication.

Bobby Williamson and Colin McAdam both suffered broken legs in Australia and will miss the early part of the season but Wallace says: "The tour was the best thing that ever happened to the club. The team spirit which the players were able to develop will be invaluable in the coming months."

Iain Ferguson of Dundee, one of Scotland's most exciting young strikers, has moved to £200,000 pounds, along with his hard-working midfield team-mate, Cammy Fraser. Those two players could well be the vital cogs needed to stop the machinery from malfunctioning any longer.

Aberdeen, under the astute leadership of Alex Ferguson, won its second Premier title in four seasons and a third Scot-

tish Cup in a row last year — but can the success story continue?

Midfielder Gordon Strachan has gone to Manchester United, Hamburg has claimed striker Mark McGhee and a third international player, defender Doug Rougiev, will be playing in Chelsea's colors this season.

St Mirren striker Frank McDougall will be McGhee's £100,000 pounds (about £150,000) replacement while Ferguson had to fork out just £40,000 to sign Clyde's Tommy McQueen to step into Rougiev's shoes. Ferguson is under no illusion about the task ahead.

He admits: "We have been forced to rebuild. It's a case of starting all over again but I'm confident that we can do it and still manage to stay at the top."

Celtic, apart from making tentative enquiries for Joe

Jordan and Aberdeen's Neale Cooper, starts the season with only one new face in Alan McNally, a £90,000 pounds (about \$145,000) buy from Ayr.

Dundee United, surprise champion two years ago, has bought Scottish International goalkeeper Billy Thomson from St Mirren to replace 36-year-old Hamish McAlpine but will otherwise rely on an infusion of home grown talent.

Hearts, in Europe for the first time in seven years, have an inspiring leader in former Rangers player Alex Macdonald to help them improve on fifth place last year, while St Mirren and Dumbarton are also managed by former Rangers men in Alex Miller and Davy Wilson.

Dumbarton, promoted along with Morton, which is under the new management of Willie McLean, seem destined for a rapid return into the first division unless Dundee or Hibernian have a particularly disastrous season.



Gordon Strachan — joined Manchester United

Rientri di titolarine a Juventus

VIVA TALIA! with ROCKY DI ZIO

La Juventus di Melbourne e' uscita sconfitta di misura nell'incontro con il South Melbourne Hellas; la solitaria rete messa a segno da Charlie Egan dopo 39 minuti di gioco ha dato due punti alla squadra greca, ma il risultato e' stato sempre in discussione e avrebbe potuto benissimo essere completamente diverso.

Da una parte l'Hellas ha fatto registrare una certa superiorita' territoriale che giustifica il risultato, ma la Juventus si e' difesa molto bene ed ha mancato alcune situazioni favorevoli.

Contro una squadra che aspira legittimamente alla vittoria di campionato ed e' imbottita di giocatori della nazionale, non si poteva pretendere di piu' dalla Juventus ancora priva di alcuni dei suoi titolari migliori e da diverse settimane ormai in difficolta', a causa dei tanti cambiamenti di formazione diventati necessari e di un piu' che naturale cali di forma e di morale.

Percio' la prova di domenica, vista sullo sfondo della situazione precaria della squadra, deve essere considerata molto positiva. Ormai la Juventus non e' piu' squadra da vittoria di campionato, ma di mezza classifica, percio' una

sconfitta di stretta misura contro una delle squadre piu' forti della competizione e' pur sempre un risultato che dovrebbe far ben sperare. La partita ha riconfermato nuovamente che almeno il reparto difensivo della squadra e' tornato ad un rendimento oltre la sufficienza, grazie soprattutto alle prodezze del portiere Martin, alla ritrovata vena di Frank Geremia e alla solidita' dei difensori centrali Brown e Drinovsky.

La prossima settimana dovrebbe rientrare anche il capitano Rogers che indubbiamente sara' molto utile per rinforzare la difesa sul lato sinistro dove Swincoe sta facendo del suo meglio ma e' ovviamente fuori posizione e in condizioni fisiche non del tutto buone.

Centrocampo e prima linea hanno lasciato molto a desiderare contro l'Hellas, ad ecce-

zione di qualche sprazzo individuale. Comunque anche in questi due reparti stanno rientrando giocatori. Lloyd e Miranda per aver completato turni di qualifica e Sweeney per essersi rimesso dall'operazione ai reni.

Anzi il centravanti e' rientrato contro l'Hellas nella insolita posizione di terzino dopo l'infortunio a Swincoe ed ha avuto almeno l'opportunita' di ritrovare in parte la caratura.

Domenica prossima la Juventus di Melbourne ospitera' la consorella di Adelaide in una partita che riveste una importanza fondamentale per tutte e due le "bianconere", la squadra che riuscirà a portare a casa i due punti potra' tirare un sospiro di sollievo e continuare a sperare che il resto del campionato porti della soddisfazione per quanto

parziali, mentre la squadra perdente potrebbe trovarsi in una situazione molto critica.

La Juventus di Melbourne si trova ancora in quinta posizione, a quota 20 a pari punti con l'altra italiana del Brisbane City.

A prima vista queste potrebbero essere una posizione discreta che dovrebbe dare una certa dose di sicurezza e di ottimismo. Ma la realta' della classifica e' tutta un'altra, poiche' alle spalle della Juventus ci sono ben cinque squadre a 18 punti, tutte con una differenza reti molto migliore della Juventus. Una sconfitta percio' farebbe precipitare la squadra di Margaris nelle posizioni piu' basse della classifica; per fortuna che il fanalino di coda, il George Cross, e' l'unica squadra veramente distanziata (ha solo 12 punti) e quindi puo' considerarsi seriamente candidato alla retrocessione. Ma c'era l'ultima squadra del Victoria.

La Juventus di Melbourne deve percio' vincere a tutti i costi per mantenere il suo posto fra le prime cinque ed aspirare così al torneo finale. E, dopo le prove incoraggianti delle ultime tre settimane e con il rientro di diversi giocatori, puo' legittimamente aspirare alla vittoria sul terreno di casa.

Se dovesse passare indenne l'ostacolo di domenica prossima, la Juventus avrebbe ancora due turni relativamente facili (contro il Brisbane City e contro il George Cross) per raccumulare punti, ritrovare morale ed operare il reinnesco dei titolari rientranti, prima di vedersela di nuovo con i squadroni del calcio della Croazia e dell'Heidelberg.

Saranno i prossimi tre turni percio' a decidere le fortune della Juventus in questo campionato. Tre vittorie, anche se potrebbe sembrare il massimo dell'ottimismo, consoliderebbe il posto del bianconeri di Melbourne fra la quarta e quinta poltrona e la squadra potrebbe inoltre tornare a giocare senza patemi d'animo e percio' in condizione di guardare con fiducia anche agli incontri piu' impegnativi.

Alla fin dei conti i bianconeri hanno battuto sia il Croatia che l'Heidelberg nel girone d'andata, quando tutto andava a gonfie vele.

Pero' molto dipendera' da domenica prossima, poiche' la partita contro la Juventus di Adelaide ha la potenzialita' di mettere la squadra di Margaris sulla strada che porta in alto oppure di sprofondarla in quella che porta alle posizioni basse della classifica.

Per la Juventus di Adelaide la situazione e' molto meno tragica poiche' la sua presente posizione in classifica (e' una delle cinque squadre ammucchiate sui 18 punti) non le permette grandi ambizioni per l'ultimo scorcio di campionato, ne' le fa troppe preoccupazioni percio' ha sempre il doppio cuscinetto della concittadina West Adelaide Hellas e George Cross a separarla dalla coda della classifica.

In questa considerazione bisogna tener presente che le squadre del Victoria e del N.S.W. saranno retrocesse anche se non finiscono ultime in classifica dei rispettivi gironi (basta che finiscano ultime fra le squadre del loro Stato), mentre le squadre di Adelaide e di Brisbane possono essere retrocesse solo se finis-

Una vittoria per la Juventus di Adelaide, pur essendo sempre utile, difficilmente le permetterebbe di arrivare alla quinta poltrona, per disputare il torneo finale.

Questo almeno come stanno le cose adesso, ma tutto e' ancora possibile nelle ultime otto giornate di questo campionato di Lega Nazionale che ha visto tante squadre rendere a livelli cosi' inconsistenti, c'e' ancora tempo per tutte le squadre in testa alla classifica di trovarsi improvvisamente in crisi e perdere terreno a vista d'occhio.

Nel girone "australiano" il derby fra APIA e Marconi e' finito con un salomonico pareggio per 3-3 lasciando la prima in seconda posizione, dietro l'irraggiungibile Sydney City. Il Marconi si trova invece in quarta posizione, con due punti di vantaggio sulla quinta (Melita) e con ben quattro punti sul gruppetto di inseguitori a quota 18.

Nessuna preoccupazione percio' per l'APIA quanto a finire nelle primissime posizioni e qualificarsi per il torneo finale: il Marconi, pur avendo ancora la certezza matematica, puo' considerarsi quasi al sicuro.

Domenica prossima l'APIA avra' l'opportunita' di accorciare le sei lunghezze che la separano dal capolista Sydney City, anche se cio' non rientra nel pronostico della vigilia, il Marconi invece ha l'opportunita' di rintuzzare l'attacco di una delle sue inseguibili, il Penrith.

Per il Brisbane City, che domenica scorsa ha battuto il concittadino Brisbane Lions per 1-0, il prossimo turno sembra piuttosto difficile con la trasferta a Sydney contro l'Olympic; una sconfitta lo farebbe precipitare dalla sua presente quarta poltrona poiche', al pari della Juventus di Melbourne, la sua differenza reti e' in negativo.

Comunque non e' detta l'ultima parola poiche' la formazione azzurra ha un buon record fuori casa ed e' sempre capace di causare sorprese.

LEGA STATALE

Nella Lega Statale del N.S.W. l'Inter Monaro finalmente ha spiccato il volo battendo i diretti avversari del Rockdale per 1-0 e si trova cosi' saldamente al comando della classifica con tre punti di vantaggio sul Rockdale stesso e con quattro punti su Manly. Ormai la squadra italiana puo' considerarsi una certezza per la vittoria di campionato e per la promozione alla Lega Nazionale che cosi' vedrebbe in lizza ben tre squadre italiane nel girone "Nord" (come diamine si chiamera') il prossimo anno.

Piu' o meno stesa situazione nella Lega Statale del Victoria, dove la squadra italiana del Morwell ha tre punti di vantaggio in cima alla classifica.

Il paragone con la Lega Statale del N.S.W. pero' finisce qui, poiche' nel campionato del Victoria la squadra italiana che era favorita per la vittoria di campionato era fino ad alcune settimane fa il Fawkner che adesso invece ha tre punti di distacco dalla capolista.

Per di piu' le due italiane si incontreranno nel prossimo turno ed i pronostici della vigilia non possono che favorire il Morwell in forma spettacolare



ormai la piu' micidiale della Lega Statale. La partita si giochera' a Fawkner a non dovrebbe mancare di spettacolarita' poiche' i padroni di casa faranno di essa una questione di vita o di morte.

Leghe minori

Nella prima divisione il Thomastown continua ad incamerare risultati positivi (domenica ha battuto il Melbourne per 2-0) e con tre punti di vantaggio in classifica, e solo quattro partite alla fine del campionato, puo' ormai considerarsi al sicuro da qualsiasi attacco che potrebbe venire dalle poche avversarie di una certa consistenza. Meglio che il comitato cominci a pensare per il prossimo campionato in Lega Statale.

L'imprevedibile Triestina, in terza divisione, e' andata a cogliere una vittoria altisonante sul campo del Prahran City, anche se ormai le speranze di promozione sono

minime poiche' dovrebbe recuperare tre punti su quattro partite per finire al secondo posto in classifica.

Il Bullen non e' andato invece oltre il pareggio per 1-1 contro il modesto Ardeer, e l'East Brunswick e' andato ancora peggio facendosi battere in casa dal mediocre Langwarrin.

Nella seconda divisione della Lega Provinciale il Regent, battuto di misura dal South Yarra, si trova ancora nella zona alta della classifica e puo' percio' sempre ambire ad un secondo posto che assicurerebbe la promozione.

Nella terza divisione il Dallas City continua la sua lotta in cima alla classifica con il North Sunshine (a pari punti) e con Seaford (distaccato di un lunghezze). La scorsa settimana il Dallas City avra' un turno relativamente facile contro il Diamond Valley e la settimana dopo ospitera' il Seaford, per finire il campionato contro il West Melbourne.

Il North Sunshine invece dovra' vedersela con il forte Hampton, ma poi avra' di fronte i modesti Lyndale West Melbourne. Quindi la battaglia coreica finira' fino alle ultimissime battute e potrebbe essere decisa con la differenza reti che per ora favorisce il terzo classificato Seaford.

Nella quarta divisione le due italiane hanno la prerogativa di guidare la classifica (Westall) e di esserne il fanalino di coda (Carrum).

GOLD — THANKS TO BRISSON, XUEREB

From page one

Indeed, it was almost the match-up many soccer fans had hoped for in the 1984 World Cup, when Brazil and France were widely hailed as the most entertaining and attack-minded teams, but did not make the final, losing to Italy and West Germany, respectively.

These were different players, of course, because European and South American players with World Cup experience are the only players excluded from Olympic eligibility. These were professionals, but not the top 20 professionals from their countries.

And, given the importance of the match, they gambled less and stuck to defence more than they had in past games. But France, more persistent on the attack, got second-half goals eight minutes apart from Francois Brissson and Daniel Xuereb, both from the club Lens in the French First Division.

"We don't realise what's happened. We're in a dream world," said the exuberant Xuereb, who finished the Olympics with five goals in six games. Asked the key to his team's success, he said: "Solidarity — from beginning to end, there were no stars but only team play."

France's gold medal and Brazil's silver were the first ever in Olympic soccer for those nations. Yugoslavia took the bronze medal, by defeating Italy on Friday night.

Three of France's stars were injured on Saturday night and did not play. The team's most important was its main source of creative initiative, the midfielder Jose Touré, out with a pulled thigh muscle. Also a star on France's national team, which won the European Nations cup in June, Touré missed that tournament because he was recovering from surgery, and he did not play again until the Olympics.

Yet Touré's place in midfield was filled admirably on Saturday night by Dominique Bijotat, of the Monaco club, who kept trying to goad his team mates into attacking.

They didn't heed him until the second half. France played extremely cautiously in the first half, although he determined Bijotat, elbowed swinging and long hair flopping, did launch two good shots. Brazil's centre back, Pinga, headed one out of the goal mouth, the other was deflected over the line for a corner.

Although Brazil had the better opportunities in that half, the South Americans failed to convert any of their six shots. The swift left winger known as Silvino kept turning the French defence inside out, but each of his three powerful shots was wide.

If I thought Brazil was much the better team in the first half, but the French deserved to win because they played a much better offensive game in the second half," said Brazil's coach, Jair Picerni.

France's patience and Bijotat's offensive persistence paid off in that second half, with goals in the 55th and 63rd minutes of play.

Jean-Philippe Rohr lofted a beautiful cross in front of the goal mouth, and the ball dipped just as Brissson's head rose to meet it. He was able to drive a powerful header into the upper left corner of the net.

Bijotat then set up the second goal with a booming shot that the Brazilian goalkeeper, Gilmar, could only parry with an extended right arm. The rebound rocketed toward defender, Pinga, and both Xuereb and Jean-Louis Zanon were converging on him. From the left side of the penalty area, Xuereb got his right foot on

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FORZA JUVE!

ΤΑ ΝΕΑ ΤΩΝ ΟΜΑΔΩΝ ΜΑΣ ΑΠΟ ΤΟ ΣΗΜΕΙΟ ΤΟΥ ΠΕΝΑΛΤΥ



by
Manos
Milios

ΤΟΥ ΒΑΛΙΖΟΥΜΕ;

Στό Μίντι Παρκ την περασμένη Κυριακή η παρουσία των φιλάθλων ήταν αποκαρδιωτική στην συνάντηση της Ελλάδας με την Ιταλική Γιουβέντους, μία ομάδα που πριν να μπει μέσα στην Έθνική κατηγορία οι εθνικοί προπονητές ποδοσφαίρου πολλοί.

Ήσαν γιά... χιλιάδες φιλάθλους που θα γέμιζαν τα γήπεδα. Και όμως τα είσιθρια που κλήθηκαν μαρτυρούν πως το ποδοσφαίρο δεν πηγαίνει καλά και θυρίζεται από μέρα σε μέρα.

Έγραψαν οι εφημερίδες γιά... 3000 φιλάθλους αλλά ο αριθμός που πήραμε από αυτόν να μην στο γήπεδο ήταν 6 μισός. Και η κατάσταση θα συνεχίζεται και θα χειροτερεύει αν δεν προλάβουν το κακό. Αν δεν γίνει το πρωτάθλημα που συζητείται δηλαδή με ομάδες του Σόβιετ τις καλύτερες και με άλλες τόσες της Μεσογείου και παράλληλα να γίνουν και οι δημόσιοι στην Β' Έθνική κατηγορία που θα δόσουν νέα πνοή στο ποδόσφαιρο το οποίο καθημερινά χάνει φιλάθλους.

Όσο γιά τις ελληνικές μας ομάδες θα ήθελα να πω τουτό: "Πώς όσο θα δίνουν οι παρτώντες σημασία στους κάθε λογής αγγλοσλαβικούς και θα αγνοούν τα ελληνόπουλα, τα ταμεία τους δεν πρόκειται να τα δούν ποτέ γεμάτα".



Στό Β' μέρος το Κάλφοντ με τον Τσούφρη έκανε το 2-1 το οποίο και δεν άλλαξε έως το 80' που διεκίνησε ο αγώνας. Έπαιξαν οι: Πέτρου, Νταγκλής, Τσιτρίδης, Τυρίκος, Κούτος, Κουλάκας, Γ. Τοκαλίδης (38') Θεοχαρίδης, Μπιτσάνης, Σιδηρόπουλος, Πατσός και Τσούφρης.

ΠΕΡΑΣΕ ΒΑΘΜΟ ΧΡΥΣΑΦΙ ΤΟ ΚΑΙΣΤΟΝ ΧΙΛ

Τό Κάλφον Χιλ ανώτερο και στά 90' της συνάντησης με τό Κρήσπορ, τελικά όποιας όθηκε σέ Ισοπαλία 1-1 χάνοντας ένα πολύτιμο βαθμό μέσα στό γήπεδό του.

Από την ελληνική ομάδα χάθηκαν πολλές ευκαιρίες από τους κυνηγούς της και με λίγη προσοχή θα μπορούσε να είχε κερδίσει άνετα μία ομάδα που σε όλο τον αγώνα έκανε ένα σούτ με τό όποιο σημείωσε και τό τέρας της.

Στό 4' ο Κοντρέρα έπιασε σούτ στην κέθετο δοκό και στό 49' συνδυασμός Μυστρι ώπη-ΰκου-Στρατάκης έδωσε την ευκαιρία στον τελευταίο με γωνιακό σούτ να ανοίξει τό σκόρ.

Λίγο μετά ο Πετρόπουλος από κοντά άστέχισε και στό 65' κοντινό σούτ τό Στρατάκη απέκρουσε κατά λάθος ο τερματοφύλακας τό Κρήσπορ.

Στό 78' στό μοναδικό σούτ που έκαναν οι φιλοξενούμενοι που είχαν και τον άέρα, κα

τάφεραν να κάνουν τό 1-1 που ήταν και τό τελικό αποτέλεσμα.

Με τό Κάλφον έπαιξαν οι Κήργιος, Μυστρι ώτης, Λορέντζι, Οτοβλ, Καράλιαμης, Πετρόπουλος, Κοντρέρα, Μπελεργίνος, Άλκος (79') Βλαχάκης) Άνδριώτης και Στρατάκης.

Εξώρρισαν οι Λορέντζι, Οτοβλ, Άνδριώτης, Στρατάκης.

ΝΙΚΗΣΕ Η Ν.ΕΛΛΑΣ 2 - 1

Η Ν.Ελλάς στό γήπεδό της νίκησε και τό Μουράκτιν 3-1 με τέρματα που πέτυχε ο πο

λό καλός Τζέ Παλατιδής.

Από την ελληνική ομάδα δεν ύστέρησε κα νένας.

Εξώρρισαν οι Κωστόπουλος, Μπουράκοβιτς μαζί με τόν σκόρερ.

Έπαιξαν οι Πασάκος, Ζαφρημένιος, Κωνσταντίνου, Νικολάου, Μπουράκοβιτς, Τσολάκης Κωστόπουλος, Παλατιδής, Κυπραίος, Θεοχάρου και Εμπυρίδης.

ΑΦΑΙΡΕΘΗΚΑΝ ΑΥΟ ΒΑΘΜΟΙ ΑΠΟ ΤΗΝ Ν.ΕΛΛΑΣ

Τό δικαστήριο τό VSE τό Μτροπόλιταν, άφαίρεσε 2 βαθμούς της Ν.Ελλάς και τό ύς έδωσε στό Τζηλδγκ τό όποιο κέρρισε την έυστάση που είχε κάνει γιανί στόν μεταξό τους αγώνα που είχε νικήσει ή ελληνική ο μάδα 3-1 δεν είχαν δοθεί τά βελτία τών παικτών της τά όποια είχαν χαθεί μία βδο μάδα πριν.

Τό περίεργο είναι ότι τά βελτία ήταν στά γραφεία τό VSE που τά είχε παραδώσει ο διατητής τό αγώνα από τό Ρόθβαλ Πάρκ και τά όποια τά είχε ζεχάσει ο ύπεύθυνος της Ν.Ελλάς αλλά ή ελληνική ομάδα δεν ειδοποιήθηκε (σύμφωνα πάντα με τό ύς) παράγοντες τό Πόρτ Μέλμπορν) να τά παραλάβει. Έτσι στόν έπόμενο αγώνα ή Ν.Ελλάς άγωνίστηκε χωρίς βελτία γιά να μηδενισθεί τελικά.

ΤΟ ΟΚΛΗ ΠΕΡΙΤΑΡΑ ΣΤΟ ΝΟΡΘ ΤΖΗΛΟΥΚ

Θαυμάσιο τό Όκλή όσο ποτέ και ζαναβρίσκοντας τόν καλό του έαυτό και τά δίχτυα τών άντιπάλων, πέτυχε μεγάλη νίκη επί τό Νόρτ Τζηλδγκ 5-3 και γύρισε στην Με λβορν με τό ύς 2 βαθμούς.

Οι γηπεδοχόι άνοιξαν τό σκόρ στό 5' και στό 20' έκαναν τό 2-0 γιά να μείώσει ο Στεργίου στό 44' σέ 2-1.

Στό Β' μέρος στό 50' και 52' ο Σ.Γκιόβ-σικ με δύο τέρματα έδωσε τό πρόβάδισμα στό Όκλή κάνοντας τό 3-2.

Στό 60' ο Καρμαπάτος άνέβασε σέ 4-2 αλλά στό 82' οι γηπεδοχόι μείωσαν σέ 4-3 γιά να κλείσει τό σκόρ ο Μάρκου στό 88' 5-3 που ήταν και τό τελικό.

Από την ελληνική ομάδα δεν ύστέρησε κα νένας.

Έπαιξαν οι Παλίδης, Παδόπουλος, Κριτσιλίδης, Στοιγάννου, Παλζίνα, Κοντοκόστας, Λεονάρδος, Καρμαπάτος, Στεργίου, Γκιόβσικ (Μάρ-κου) Παλαιολογούδης.

Τό Δ.Ε. τό Όκλή και οι παίκτες εχόνται "Βίον Βύτιχ" στόν Τζεβάνι Μπατικιόττο ο όποιος παντρεύτηκε την έλεκτή της καρδιάς του την περασμένη βδομάδα.

SUNNY CRUST CUP ΜΕ ΟΜΑΔΕΣ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΕΣ

ΣΤΟ ΜΙΝΤΑ ΠΑΡΚ ΤΟΝ ΟΚΤΩΒΗ

Μία διοργάνωση με ομάδες Τζιόβ-νιορς από 11 έως και 16 έτών πρόκειται να γίνει τόν Όκτάρη και συγκεκριμένα από τις 6 ήμέρα Σάββατο στό Μίντι Παρκ. Στην διοργάνωση αυτή "SUNNY CRUST CUP" είναι όκτες όλες οι ελληνικές ομάδες, όσες φυσικά δηλώσουν έγκαιρα συμμετοχή.

Όπως μάς είπε ο πρόη άσος της "Ελλάς Τζιμ Άμστρογκ ο όποιος είναι και ύπεύθυνος, σέ κάθε ήλικία θα είναι 4 ο-μάδες έτσι ώστε να συγκεκριθώσουν 24 ο-μάδες στό τουρνουά στις όποιες θα δο-θούν άναμνηστικά.

Γιά όσες ελληνικές ομάδες ενδιαφέρονται να δηλώσουν συμμετοχή ή όποια είναι 20 βολλάρια, τό τηλέφωνο τό Άμστρογκ είναι 3708197.

Τό τουρνουά θα διαρκέσει 3 με 4 βδομάδες.

ΒΡΑΔΙΑ ΝΤΙΣΚΟ ΤΟΥ ΚΑΙΣΤΟΝ ΧΙΛ

Τό Κάλφον Χιλ διοργανώνει την 1η του Σεπτεμβρη Βραδιά Ντίσκο στό πολυτελές "Νικόλσον Ρεσέριον".

Τιμή είσιτηρίου μετά φαγητό και ποτόν μόνο 13 βολλάρια.

"ΤΑΒΕΡΝΑ ΝΑΪΤ" ΤΟΥ ΚΛΑΦΛΟΝΤ

Με 12 βολλάρια μόνο (παγητό και ποτό) τό Κάλφοντ διοργανώνει "Ταβέρνα Νάϊτ" την 1η Σεπτεμβρη στην αίθουσα της λέσχης του γηπέδου του.

Γιά πληροφορίες και είσιτήρια στόν κ. Ζαφειρόπουλο στό 578 5694.

JUGOSLOVENSKA SCENA

ILUSTROVANA JUGOSLOVENSKA SCENA

— U SLICI I REČI —

Jedno kratko vreme (do 19. avgusta ove godine), dok se pisac ovih redova ne vrati sa godišnjeg odmora, ova rubrika će imati više slika nego teksta. Razume se, ako bilo ko želi da objavi kratak opis nekog sportskog događaja iz jugoslovenske sportske zajednice može da ga pošalje na adresu "Soccer Actiona" (naglasiti da je za Jugoslovensku scenu). Izveštaji moraju biti iskucani na pisacoj mašini. Isto važi za slike, koje treba slati sa propratnim tekstom.

Slike koje objavljujemo u ovoj rubrici snimili su Stojan Mitić, Milan Ninović i Slavko Drlić.



NORTHERN UNITED ispod 16
Levo je trener Djuro Krivošija, koji je godinu dana ranije osvojio prvenstvo sa JUST-ovim juniorima ispod 16 godina.



VETERANI J.U.S.T.-a i MELBOURN-a
"Plavi" veterani imaju skupa oko 550 godina, dok su protivnici dosta mlađi, što im nije pomoglo u ovom susretu, koji je JUST dobio sa dva gola razlike.

NAJTEŽI POSAO

Kada trener ima suviše igrača, onda ekonom deli dresove. Duško Mitrevski taj posao obavlja sa zadovoljstvom u "plavom" taboru bez obzira na



TOP SOCCER THIS WEEKEND

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Aug 18 & 19



NATIONAL CONFERENCE



Gary Cole
Preston

BRISBANE LIONS V PRESTON

Richlands 3 pm Sunday
Previous NSL results
Brisbane Lions 1 win
Preston 3 wins, 2 draws

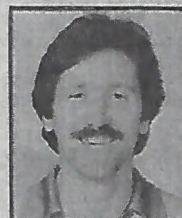
CANBERRA v FOOTSCRAY

Bruce Stadium 3 pm Saturday

FOOTSCRAY v CANBERRA

Schintler Reserve 3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL Results
Canberra 5 wins
Footscray 5 wins, 4 draws



Tommy Sermanni
Canberra



Oscar Crino
South Melbourne

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS V SOUTH MELBOURNE

Chaplin Reserve 3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL results
George Cross 1 win

HEIDELBERG V GREEN GULLY

Olympic Village 3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL Results
1 draw



Steve Winn
Heidelberg



Paul Shillabeer
Adelaide City

JUVENTUS V ADELAIDE CITY

Olympic Park No 2 3pm Sunday

Previous NSL results
Adelaide City 1 win

WEST ADELAIDE V MELBOURNE CROATIA

Hindmarsh 2.30 pm Sunday

Previous NSL result
1 draw



Peter Lewis
Melbourne Croatia

AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE



Brett Thornthwaite
Blacktown

BLACKTOWN V SYDNEY CROATIA

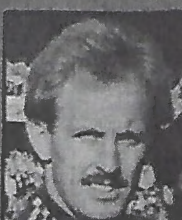
Gabbie Stadium 3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL results
Blacktown 1 win

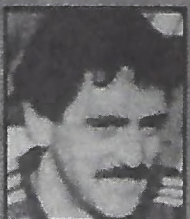
MARCONI V PENRITH CITY

Marconi Stadium 3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL results
Marconi 2 wins



Tony Henderson
Marconi



Mike O'Shea
St George

NEWCASTLE V ST GEORGE

Adamstown Oval 2.30 pm Saturday

Previous NSL results
Newcastle 4 wins
St George 1 win, 1 draw

SYDNEY OLYMPIC V BRISBANE CITY

Pratten Park 3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL results
Sydney Olympic 4 wins
Brisbane City 6 wins 2 draws



Tony Dakos
Sydney Olympic



Jean-Paul Marigny
Sydney City

SYDNEY CITY V LEICHHARDT

Sydney Athletic Field 3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL results
Sydney City 6 wins
Leichhardt 3 wins, 2 draws

WOLLONGONG V MELITA EAGLES

Wollongong Showgrounds
3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL results
1 draw



Ken Wilson
Melita Eagles